



2010

# Communication No. 296

The Pleasant Places of Florida

## SHERLOCK HOLMES APP

*Leisure & Travel Week*, December 26, 2009

GOSUB 60, an independent innovator and publisher of mobile entertainment, announces their latest game Sherlock Holmes: The Game is Afoot!

True to Sherlock Holmes' original mysteries, this app offers the authentic stories with a number of mysteries ranging from *A Scandal in Bohemia* to *The Red-Headed League*. Each story has five levels filled with photorealistic artwork that is so compelling, players feel like they're right alongside Sherlock and Watson! The eBooks offered with the completion of every case give players the opportunity to download Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's short stories directly to their handset, free.

GOSUB 60's core value of innovation played a huge role in the development of Sherlock Holmes: The Game is Afoot, leading the company to originate a new genre: the eBook fused mobile game. "Since eBooks are currently one of the fastest growing categories in the Apple App Store, it makes sense to combine the two genres to give the consumer added value," says Josh Hartwell, CEO of GOSUB 60, "and it helps set GS60 games apart from the competition."

Sherlock Holmes: The Game is Afoot is available through major carriers for iPhone, BlackBerry and feature phones. Price for unlimited access starts at \$2.99. Downloads will be available through carrier app stores, Apple App Store, BlackBerry App World and MobileDeluxe.com. For more information on Sherlock Holmes: The Game is Afoot, please visit [www.MobileDeluxe.com](http://www.MobileDeluxe.com).

## Australian Sherlock Holmes Comic Books Series - Dark Detective: Sherlock Holmes

While there has been a proliferation of Sherlock Holmes related comic books in recent months, thanks to the upcoming Robert Downey Jr film, this series - Dark Detective: Sherlock Holmes - is produced by Sherlockians.

Sydney Passenger and Sherlockian artist extraordinaire Phil Cornell (*Gaslight Grimoire: Fantastic Tales of Sherlock Holmes* and *Curious Incidents: Vols. 1 & 2*) handles the artwork, the story is by Gaslight

Grimoire: *Fantastic Tales of Sherlock Holmes* contributor Chris Sequeira with cover art by Academy Award nominated Special Effects and Makeup genius Dave Elsey (cover art for my third anthology - *Gaslight Arcanum: Uncanny Tales of Sherlock Holmes*), so this is one dream-team of Sherlock Holmes comic book creators.

Three issues and a preview comic have been issued by Black House Comics in Australia during 2009, but they've been next to impossible to get outside of Australia. Apparently that is going change in January 2010 when interested folks will be able to order directly from the publisher.

More info on my Sherlock Holmes News Blog, including a link to download the free preview issue as a PDF file, at: <http://www.sherlocknews.com/2009/12/comic-australian-series-dark-detective.html> or visit Black House Comics directly at: <http://www.blackhousecomics.com/>

There is some major talent and Sherlockian skill behind this 'horror tinged' Sherlock Holmes comic book series. Check it out.



The book is written by Christopher Sequeira (*Iron Man in Astonishing Tales, Justice League Adventures*, 9-11 Volume 2, Rattlebone) with art by Phil Cornell (*Curious Incidents, Gaslight Grimoire*) and covers, story and design elements by Academy Award TM Nominee Dave Elsey (*Star Wars Episode III, The Wolfman, Farscape, Where the Wild Things Are*). Layouts in the preview were by Tim McEwen (*Greener Pastures*) and Issue One by J. Scherpenhuizen (*The Twilight Age*).

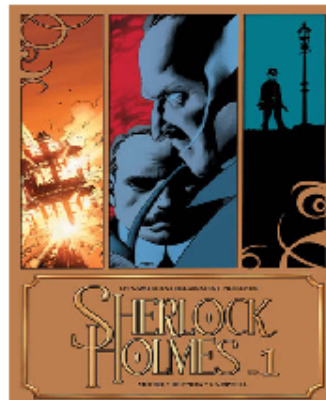
<http://pulpfaction.net/node/125>

### Sherlock Holmes Consulting Detective, Vol. 1

**Type of material:** Trade Paperback **Publisher:** Cornerstone Book Publishers **Year:** 2009 **Editor:** Ron Fortier Anthology.

The first tale, *The Massachusetts* (cont. on pg 2)

**HE'S EVERYWHERE...** January 2010 issue of *Smithsonian* contains an article, *Sherlock Holmes' London* by Joshua Hammer. Hammer tracks down the favorite haunts of Doyle and his creation... The February 2010 Gryphon Books catalog lists several Holmesian publications, including *The Adventure of the Ancient Gods*, *The Dreaming Detective*, *Mystery Tales*, *Relics of S.H.*, *The Grey Nun Legacy* & *The Loss of the British Bark Sophy Anderson*, *Souvenirs of S.H.*, *The Terror Out of Time* and *The Coils of Time*. Go to [222.gryphonbooks.com](http://222.gryphonbooks.com) ... In an article on msnbc concerning the changing brightness of a star, study team member Christine Nicholls of Mount Stromio Observatory in Australia was quoted as saying "A Sherlock Holmes is needed to solve this very frustrating mystery." ...The Holiday 2009 issue of *World Ark* magazine contained an article on Laurie King. King initiated *Fifteen Weeks of Bees* to promote her new book and raise funds for Heifer International. ([www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)) ... *Mindware's* December 2009 catalog listed a Whodunit Puzzle Trio in which two of the titles were *Baker Street Whodunits* and *Baker Street Puzzles*. ... In the Japanese anime series, *Kuroshitsuji*, episode 7 contains a resort being haunted by a "Devil Dog." The estate is owned by man named Barrymore who used phosphorus on a dog to create the legend ... The November 27, 2009 issue of *Entertainment Weekly* had a cover with Robert Downey, Jr. with an interview and an early look at the film *Sherlock Holmes* ... In the July 2009 issue of *Senior Connection* there was an article by Fred Wright titled *In Search of Sherlock Holmes* wherein he recounts landmarks related to both Doyle and Holmes ...



Two interesting finds by member Tom Takach. . Dynamite Entertainment just concluded a *Sherlock Holmes* series in 5 parts. *Victorian Undead* has Holmes & Watson fighting zombies. Holmes has been missing from the comic genre for some time, so it's nice to see him back. We understand there was a pretty awful *Planetary* #11 issue with the great detective before Dynamite came out with their rather well done series. Now he's fighting zombies. Since zombies are battling vampires in popularity recently, one wonders what's next for Holmes.

### Calendar Sherlockiana

**12-14 February** *Wessex Weekend*, Tampa, FL in celebration of the Pleasant Places of Florida's 20th anniversary of the Wessex Cup. Friday night social, Saturday running of the Wessex Cup, Saturday Banquet, presentations, etc. Contact Carl Heifetz,

**16 April - 2 May** *The Death and Life of Sherlock Holmes*, a play by Susan Zeder at the Paul V. Glavin Playhouse, Arizona State University. [www.tinyurl.com/ycemmnt](http://www.tinyurl.com/ycemmnt)

**23-25 April** *STUB/Watsonian Weekend* Friday Dinner & Sunday brunch at Sheraton Four Points, 51st running of Chicago Silver Blaze at Hawthorne Race Course

**30 April - 2 May** *Malice Domestic XXII* Arlington, VA [www.malice-domestic.org](http://www.malice-domestic.org)

**14-16 May** Dayton Symposium *Investigating the American Canon* Contact

**13-14 October** *The Friends of Arthur Conan Doyle Collection Symposium* in Toronto.

**14-17 October** *Buchercon XLI* San Francisco, CA [www.bcon2010.com](http://www.bcon2010.com)

because most of the principal characters are American, but it is still quite noticeable as it opens the book. The mechanics of the tale are difficult to accept, but the characters are believable and Holmes and Watson are relatively comfortable presences.

The second tale, *The Problem at Stamford Bridge*, is another novella, this time by Van Allen Plexico. It introduces Dr. Watson and the audience to the world of professional Soccer in late Victorian England. Unfortunately, that world shares many traits with professional sports in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, which include felonies, player violence and professional jealousy. I suspect the same was true of the gladiators in the Roman Coliseum. Sherlock Holmes manages to adapt himself seamlessly into the milieu and comes up with the proper solutions while Dr. Watson plays his usual catch-up game.

The third tale, *The Adventure of the Locked Room*, is another novella, this time by Andrew Salmon. There is some confusion about the timing of this tale as it is supposed to occur after *A Study in Scarlet* but only a fortnight or so after Holmes and Watson move into the rooms in Baker Street. If the timing factor is ignored, this becomes an interesting little mystery, with a couple of neat twists. Further, the door is left open for additional complexities in the future, so this is a reasonably satisfying visit to our old friends in their new abode.

The fourth tale, *The Adventure* (Cont. on page 3)

(cont. from pg 1) *Affair*, is a novella by Aaron Smith that suffers from an excess of Americanisms, both in language and in viewpoint. This is somewhat eased



Sherlock Holmes action figure sold by Shakespeare's Den for \$9.95. See [www.shakespearesden.com](http://www.shakespearesden.com)

(cont. from page 2) of *the Tuvan Delegate*, is a long short story that involves additional Sherlockian characters, Mycroft Holmes and Professor Moriarty. Take one peace conference in London, add the Professor causing trouble, mix in Mycroft trying to keep order, Sherlock investigating an apparently unrelated event and stir well. The result is written here. This is an amusing tale, full of action and adventure, with little deduction and not much mystery.

The final tale, *Dead Man's Manuscript*, is a novella by I. A. Watson. It contains enough mystery and exotic background for any Holmes tale as well as several well-drawn supporting cast. It is a classic mystery, with all needed clues included but obscured and it is a fun read. Dr. Watson exhibits his better qualities, Holmes astounds his audiences and all's right with the world, even if villains are about their business.

The "Vol. #1" designation on this book declares the publisher's intent to follow with more of the same (or better?). A sequel may be worth looking for.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones, January, 2010.

THIS IS THE WESSEX CUP!!! DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!!!!

## Florida Wessex Cup Weekend

February 12-14, 2010

Tampa Bay Downs Racetrack, Oldsmar, Florida

Hotel accommodations at convention rates of \$119.00 \$99.00 per night (single or double occupancy) plus tax. (Mention Pleasant Places of Florida for Discount) Courtyard by Marriott, 4014 Tampa Road Oldsmar, FL 34677 813-925-8887 Rooms have a King size bed with a pull out or 2 Queen beds, oversized work area, complimentary high speed and wireless access dual data ports, two phone lines, refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, satellite television, iron/ironing board & hair dryer. Facilities have a pool and fitness center. Parking is complimentary.

The weekend includes two buffet meals and two plated meals. Please pick from the following meal choices for each person in your party. We have tried to accommodate various tastes in our selection. If you require a different dietary selection, please don't hesitate to list your needs so that a special dish can be provided.

**PLEASE EMAIL WANDA DOW AT [hottentot@verizon.net](mailto:hottentot@verizon.net) IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON ATTENDING ANY EVENT AND HAVE NOT MADE A RESERVATION!!!!**

**Saturday Dinner Choices:** **Cheese Ravioli Grande** (*Saffron & lemon pepper flavored pasta stuffed with five domestic and imported cheeses served with asparagus and red pepper cream*); **Chicken Tuscany** (*Breast of chicken stuffed with roasted red peppers, Portobello mushrooms and smoked mozzarella served with a tomato-basil cream, wild rice medley and seasonal vegetables*); or **Dijon Crusted Salmon** (*Garlic marinated salmon fillet topped with Dijon mustard, sun dried tomatoes and bread crumbs served with primavera risotto and seasonal vegetables*) All dinners include a house salad, rolls and coffee or tea.

**Choice of desserts:** NY Vanilla Cheesecake, Turtle Cheesecake Divine, Fudge Walnut Brownie, Chocolate Lava Cake or Key Lime Pie

**Sunday Breakfast Choices:** **All American** (*eggs, bacon/sausage, home fries*); **French Toast** (*w/bacon/sausage & fruit*); **Eggs Benedict** (*bacon, cheddar cheeses & potato croquette, berries*) or **Fruit Plate** (*melons, seasonal berries, bananas, fruit yogurt*)

### EVENT LINE-UP:

**FRIDAY 8-10pm** Social Gathering. Cash Bar. Sherlockian videos. Games. Weekend Packets. Sing-a-long. Darts. Assignments.

**SATURDAY 7-10am** Breakfast. *History of the Wessex Cup* (David McCallister) 9am; *You Say Baritsu, I Say Bartitsu* (Wanda Dow). Trivia Pursued.

**10:45am** Transport to Tampa Bay Downs.

**11:30am** Luncheon and Wessex Cup Race. Transport to hotel.

**5-6:30pm** *Behind the Scene at SILV* (Susan Diamond & Allan Devitt); *Shoscombe Old Place* (Susan Dahlinger); *Red, Black and Grey in SILV* (David McCallister). Trivia Pursued.

**7-10pm** Banquet. Toasts. Recitations: Musgrave Ritual, 221-B. *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* (The Dow Family Players). *Reminiscences of Silver Blaze Race & Intro to Red Smith tape* (Dorothy Stix). Trivia Pursued.

**SUNDAY - 8-10am** Breakfast. Solutions. Awards.



**The Pleasant Place of Florida**

Founded in 1972

Rev. Leslie Marshall, B.S.I. 1972-1977  
Dr. Benton Wood, B.S.I. 1977-1988  
Bill Ward, B.S.I. 1988-1989  
Dr. Benton Wood, B.S.I. 1989-1996  
The Last Court of Appeals 1997-present

For the record, The Last Court of Appeals consists of **David McCallister**, known as Master of the House (Master of Ceremonies, host of annual Wessex Cup),  
Representative both with the Servants and with the Tradespeople (correspondent),  
**Carl Heifetz**, known as  
**Wanda & Jeff Dow**, know as the Papers on the Sundial (Communications & bookkeeping),

**RENEWAL RATES: US\$12.00 U.S./US\$13.00 CANADA/US\$14.00 INTERNATIONAL  
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RENEWAL. RENEWAL COVERS TEN (10) ISSUES.**

