



The Pleasant Places of Florida

(* - Suggested in The Five Orange Pips)

A Corresponding Scion Society of The Baker Street Irregulars
(P.P. of F. logo courtesy of Sandpiper Resorts, St. Pete Beach, Fla.)

12th Night Reflections

.... A winner at last! This Recorder recently won a small pay-off from the NH Sweepstakes with "17", the number of steps up to 221B. I still hold "221" which

I'm sure will come through anon....The 9th Annual Spring Gathering of the PPoff at HQ(Holmes Beach) is scheduled for SAT.,MAY 12th - 11:30am-2pm. Be sure to mark your calendar. ... Bob Katims reports that there is a new Scion in the Miami area - "The Tropical Deerstalkers". Contact Dale Barker for more info...Baker Street Merchants, (21217 Washington Ave.#46,Walnut,CA 91789) offers a whole passel of S'ian items, including a coffee cup (illustrated at left.). Virginia Lou Seay



has some interesting items for sale. Write to get her list. ... STABUR GRAPHICS,INC. (23301 Meadow Park,Detroit, Mich 48239 is offering several Holmesian prints. Write for their list & prices.... We have also rec'd Issue #53 of Afghanistanzas, Scion publication of the "Double-Barrelled Tiger Cubs" which lists a plethora of S'ian items which are available...Greenwood Press (Box 5007,Westport, Conn 06881)announces the publishing of "The Baker Street Reader: Cornerstone Writings about SH", by Philip Shreffler. They stated no price. ... Also The Bullpup Press(1310 Catalina Ave., Seal Beach, CA 90740) announces the publishing of "On The Scent - A Visitor's Guide to Sherlock Holmes's London". It runs \$17, plus

\$1.50 pstg. ... John Bennett Shaw is at it again! (and happily so). A S.H. Workshop set for August 17-19 - this time at the Univ. of Dubuque - I-O-WAY, that is. Details may be secured from Continuing Educ., Univ.of Dubuque, 2000 University Ave.,Dubuque, IA 52001. ..As always my thanks & appreciation for all who have corresponded with this Recorder since our last Communication. To Barbara Brandes, Walter Trenarry, Mike Carroll, "Pat" Herst, Gerry Stone, John Kalajian, Marguerite Wolfsburg, Peter Blau, Bart Eberman, Henry Ryan, Paul Gunning, Pattie Brunner (who continues to put out one of the best Scion publications -Baker Street Chronicle), Diane Cole, Richard Wein, Marsha Pollak, Bob Gellerstedt, Philip Brigdon, Ann Byerly, Bob Katims, Bob Simpson, Helen Swift, Harold Niver, Mark Alberstat, Courtney Anderson, Caroline Everett, Dick Lesh, Alan Olding, and Ron DeWaal. Please forgive any that I may have missed. It's your correspondence that makes this humble Communication possible. Thanks to SANDPIPER RESORTS for helping with mailing labels & envelopes, and the SAINT ALBAN'S STAMP MISSION for postage - and what exotic stamps they are! ... I do hope all Resident Members of the P.P.of F. will make plans to attend the Spring Gathering.



Saturday, May 12th's the date... HOLMES Beach is the place. Be well assured that I'll sick Moriarty on you if you fail to appear! Be sure to drop a note to HQ if you're planning to come.



Holmes Beach



COMMUNICATION #69

APRIL 30, 1984*

Published Irregularly by the Pleasant Places of Florida

A Corresponding Scion Society of

THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS

Please direct correspondence to:

The Rev'd Dr. Benton Wood, BSI - Recorder

"Lubricant for the Wheels" - \$2.21 per annum.

Current Circulation - 361

+++++

(* - On this day in 1895, Moriarty pleaded: "... and now at the close of April .. I am in positive danger of losing my liberty .. you must drop it, Mr. Holmes, you really must." (FINA)

Philatelic Philandering

.... or "Stamping Around with Sherlock Holmes"



The philatelic game is certainly afoot these days! In mid-June, TURKS & CAICOS (B.W. Indies, south of the Bahamas) will issue a set of four stamps, plus a Souvenir Sheet commemorating the 125th Anniversary of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's birth. The set is thematically Holmesian. The 25c stamp depicts the "Second Stain, with Holmes, Watson, Lord Bellinger & Trelawney Hope. The 45c stamp is show at right. The 70c stamp shows the arrest of Col. Moran from "The Empty House". The 85c, from "The Greek Interpreter" shows The Master introducing Watson to Mycroft Holmes. The \$2 S/S has a Rathbone/Bruce likeness in front of a poster of Doyle's writings - many non-Holmesian. On each stamp Doyle's portrait (rather a grim one at that) peers through a Sherlockian magnifying glass. I haven't seen the colours to be used, but hope they will be cheery & bright. Set of these issues, and First Day Covers, if desired, may be purchased through your local stamp dealer or from any New Issue dealer, or direct from Turks & Caicos, capital: Grand Turk.

From Mrs. Hudson's Kitchen



MRS. HUDSON'S MINT SAUCE

The traditional English complement to a roast leg of lamb, new peas, and buttered new potatoes.

3/4 cup vinegar

1/2 cup water

2 tablespoons sugar

1/2 cup finely chopped mint

Combine the vinegar, water, and sugar and bring to a boil. Add the mint, and cool. Add more sugar if the sauce is too sharp for you. makes about 1 cup.

TURKS & CAIC

Sherlock Holmes fighting Professor Moriarty at



The Adventure of the Fina

Agony Column



I say, 'olmes, I do think old Baskerville wants to go out.



PROOF THAT SHERLOCK HOLMES WAS A DETECTIVE

1. Sherlock sounds like sheer lock.
2. A sheer lock is an invisible hair.
3. One invisible hare was named Harvey.
4. Harvey Kuenn manages the Milwaukee Brewers.
5. The word Milwaukee contains only one I.
6. An I by itself is a private I.
7. A private I is a detective.

THEREFORE, SHERLOCK HOLMES WAS A DETECTIVE.

APRIL 1984 GAMES

OS
Reichenbach Falls 



45¢

Problem

*From:
Publishers
Central*

415496. SHERLOCK HOLMES IN AMERICA
By B. Blackbeard

Over 500 Photos and Illus., 67 in Full Color
Hundreds of hitherto unpublished treasures from the Sherlock Holmes canon document America's obsession with the great detective. Incl. comic strips and political cartoons, playbills, promotions, reviews, commentaries and burlesques. 240 pages. 8 1/2 x 11 1/4".
Pub. at \$28.50 **Only \$9.98**

I see your TRAVEL AGENT



JULY 29-AUG. 4 THE OXFORD WORLD OF MYSTERY— Sherlock Holmes and Agatha Christie.

"In the dim light of the lamp I saw him sitting there, an old briar pipe between his lips, his eyes fixed vacantly upon the corner of the ceiling."

Thus Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930) created perhaps the most famous detective character in the English language, Sherlock Holmes. The origins of all crime and detective novels can be traced to Victorian England and we will follow the development of the genre from Edgar A. Poe, Dickens, and Wilkie Collins through A. C. Doyle himself and into the 20th Century. So, return with us to the foggy London of the 1890's to follow in the footsteps of Sherlock Holmes amid the social realities of the time. We will discover how A.C. Doyle's personal life reflected in his masterful characterization of Holmes in such thrilling classics as "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and other Holmes adventures. Miss R. Doyle will be the Director of this exciting program.

In comparison, we will look at Agatha Christie (1890-1976), to see how her life of mystery and taciturnity was able to bring forth a movement that converted the male preserve of the classic English detective novel into an area in which a group of imaginative women writers set the trend and established a taste for the exotic. Christie's classic spot-the-lady technique is sweeter, spongier in texture than A. C. Doyle's, smelling more of verberna and aromatic tisanes than of pipe tobacco and whiskey. Her famous detectives, Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple will be compared, and her classics, "Murder on the Orient Express", "Death on the Nile", and "Evil Under the Sun" will be featured.

A special coach excursion to the famous Sherlock Holmes Pub (Northumberland Arms) and a guided walking tour of Holmes' London will reveal many true locations used by A. C. Doyle to set the scene for his sagacious detective.

FEE \$640



THE MANSION MURDERS



Sherlock Holmes, Consulting Detective VOLUME II

Here it is—brand new!—the first exciting supplement to the Sherlock Holmes Consulting Detective game! **MANSION MURDERS** brings you five additional baffling cases—plus an all new Case Book, Clue Book, 1888-1889 London Times Newspaper Archive, Mansion Blue-prints, and more!

- ★ Only \$12.00 (plus \$2.00 for postage & handling)
- ★ **STILL AVAILABLE:** Original Sherlock Holmes Consulting Detective game (featuring 10 ingenious murder cases)—just \$25.00 (plus \$2.00 for postage & handling).

Send check or money order to: **GAMES MAIL ORDER**
Dept. M-24, P.O. Box 5357, FDR Station, New York, 10150
VISA or MasterCard orders please call toll-free:
1-800-852-5200 (Ext. 402)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL PRESENTS

NON-STOP SHERLOCK

SEE 24 HOURS OF ALL THE ORIGINAL SHERLOCK HOLMES STARRING BASIL RATHBONE

Monday, February 20th



THE MOVIE CHANNEL

The Secret of
Myrtle Trace
...even Watson could solve it.
Feb. 14, 1984
Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Sherlock Holmes in a London pub

Here and There

by Ginny Turner

(From: TRAVEL-HOLIDAY magazine)
April - 1984

To Sherlock Holmes, every case was elementary, no matter how scanty the evidence. He'd spend long nights in his study smoking his curved pipe and contemplating clues, then baffle both Dr. Watson and Inspector Lestrade with infallible judgments.

A museum dedicated to preserving the legend of the master detective is a long way from 221B Baker Street, but a delight for all hard-core Holmes fans. Only a block from London's Trafalgar Square, at 10 Northumberland Avenue, the *Sherlock Holmes Pub* lures visitors worldwide.

In a reconstruction of his fictional study on the pub's second floor, it appears the master detective might return any second—tea and toast are on the table, a stack of mail awaits opening. Seemingly every item mentioned in the stories is found in the cluttered study: Holmes' violin and boxing gloves, deerstalker cap and cape, a shelf of dusty books (including *Chronicles of Crime*), magnifying glass and microscope, racks of chemicals and apparatus and a book supposedly by Holmes, *Practical Handbook of Bee Culture*.

Seen through glass on two sides, the room is papered in deep red with a Victorian pattern; a bearskin rug hugs the floor.

Holmes' notes are immobilized on the mantel with a dagger. The initials "VR," for Victoria Regina, are marked on the wall above the door—with bullet holes.

"Holmes did that one afternoon when he was bored, much to the disgust of Mrs Hudson, the housekeeper," says Joan Hardcastle, who, with her husband Eddie, manages the pub. She occasionally is called Mrs. Hudson, when it comes time to clean the display.

Downstairs, the entire pub is richly decorated with Holmesiana, and studying the maps and mementoes provides fine entertainment while sipping a brew. On the walls of the handsome, dark-paneled Victorian pub are such memorabilia as a horseshoe from Silver Blaze, the snake which posed as the speckled band, and the

head of the Hound of the Baskervilles. Also displayed are an 1896 city plan of Baker Street, manuscript pages in the hand of Arthur Conan Doyle and original illustrations from his first editions. Photos record the many actors who have played Holmes, as well as Reichenbach Falls, where Holmes met his "death" at the hands of Professor Moriarty in *The Last Adventure of Sherlock Holmes*.

The collection was assembled by the author's daughter, Lady Conan Doyle, for the 1951 Festival of Britain. Afterward, the exhibit was purchased by the Whitbread Brewery, owner of the pub (formerly the Northumberland Arms) because of its association with the *Northumberland Hotel*. Holmes and Watson often stayed there, according to Joan Hardcastle. "Next door used to be a Turkish bath they used, too." She props open the back door and indicates the building across the alley. "It's a bank now, but you can see a little of the tiling. They were there a lot."

She speaks of the detective and doctor as if she knew them personally, but if asked about it, she smiles. "When I talk with people, I try to find out if they believe Holmes is real. If they do, I don't disillusion them." She can explain the significance of every item in the Holmes museum, but reluctantly admits she hasn't read all the stories. "I didn't miss a single Basil Rathbone movie, though."

Before noon the pub is quiet. Many of the small tables are taken by mature gentlemen smoking cigars and reading *The Times*, or talking quietly over an early pint of bitter. Eddie Hardcastle works behind the bar, drawing pints or halves and chatting with regulars.

At noon, a crowd gathers, for Mrs. Hudson/Hardcastle has supervised preparation of a very attractive spread of "pub grub"—hot and cold sandwiches, shepherd's pie, macaroni and cheese, or steak and kidney pie. Lunch and dinner are available in the restaurant upstairs.

The food is good, but it's the museum and ambience that is so satisfying to a real Holmes devotee. It is tribute indeed to the greatest detective who never lived. ○



Ginny Turner

Holmes re-elected:
Do-It-All Adler
Naples Fed Promotes Holmes
Holmes On Top In Bandit Bout

Freelance writer Ginny Turner, who occasionally can be seen wearing a deerstalker cap, is a longtime Holmes devotee.

jolly good,
Watson

Holmes to manage
local S&L branch

From: The Orlando Sentinel

• ORANGE GROVE PARK

Presents

Sherlock Homes

and

The Case of the First-Time Buyers

"We're here t-to see M-m-mr. Sherlock Homes," the young man stammered, visibly pained by the tight grip his nervous wife held on his arm. "He's expecting us."

"E's not 'ere," snapped the hunchbacked housekeeper, "but you can wait for 'im in the parlor, if you've a mind to."

She motioned them towards a door halfway down the hall, then disappeared without another word.

The wife sat on the edge of a plush Victorian loveseat, fidgeting with her handbag, as her husband paced back and forth before the blazing fireplace. They jumped like rabbits when, moments later, a tall, distinguished gentleman appeared in the doorway and boomed: "Ah ha, Mr. and Mrs. Sherry! I believe I have the solution to your problem!"

"B-but Mr. Homes," said the confused young man, "we have not yet explained what our problem is! How could you possibly...?!"

"Elementary, Mr. Sherry," Homes quickly replied, "you and your lovely wife are currently renting a small, uncomfortable apartment for which you are paying far too much money. You have succeeded in saving enough to finally invest in a home of your own, but you are quite unsure where to look and what to look for. Am I correct?"

The awestruck couple could only nod.

"Very good," Homes continued. "You will find the solution to your problem at ORANGE GROVE PARK. There you will discover an extraordinary selection of beautiful new homes starting at only \$63,990! They offer FHA/VA Financing, and - as first-time buyers - you may be able to qualify for their special low interest Bond Money!"

The couple's eyes lit up like children on a Christmas morning.

"And at ORANGE GROVE PARK, every 3- and 4-bedroom home includes 2-full baths, central air and heat, wall-to-wall carpeting, range, dishwasher and disposal, a 2-car garage with a door opener, and much much more!"

"Oh, Mr. Homes," cried the couple in unison, "how can we ever repay you?!"

"Dinner at your new ORANGE GROVE PARK home would be quite delightful."



• Sherlock Homes •

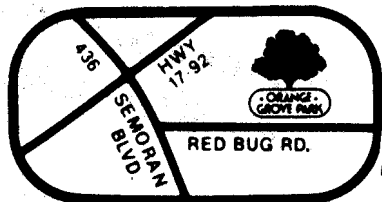
Case Solved!



• THE TANGELO • Actual construction may vary slightly from architect's renderings.

NEW HOMES FROM
\$63,990

FHA/VA Financing and Bond Money Available



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Mycroft Holmes's Famous Sister

While your Jan. 6 page-one report on the Baker Street Irregulars barring women from their annual dinner was interesting, you seem to have assumed that Sherlock Holmes was a sexist male. Nothing could be further from the truth. Indeed, it has become well settled that Holmes was a woman. Numerous scholarly publications have demonstrated this. See, for example, "Sherlock Holmes Was a Woman" by Esther Rubin Sorkin in the December, 1979, issue of the Sherlockian Meddler, the publication of the Non-Canonical Calabashes, the Sherlock Holmes Society of Los Angeles.

I understand that Ms. Holmes, who is indeed now 130 years old, is most upset about this mischaracterization. Already, most of the Baker Street Irregulars' scion societies reject its sexist bias. That it continues to exclude Sherlock Holmes herself from its dinners is tragic enough; the public should not be deceived into believing anything other than the truth: Sherlock Holmes was and is a rational woman and a committed feminist.

NORMAN H. GREEN

Beverly Hills, Calif.

* * *

As an Adventuress of Sherlock Holmes, I was pleased to read Lee Berton's article concerning Sherlockian festivities on Jan.

6, the Master's birthdate. The "paradog" narrated at last year's Adventuresses' banquet was indeed entitled "The Adventure of the Five Puce Map Tacks." "The Adventure . . ." (thanks for not adding an "s") is a book written and illustrated by Paul Nizza and published by our corporation. Mr. Nizza's protagonist is one Doorlock Homes.

The Adventuresses publish a stylish, amusing and learned quarterly review, The Serpentine Muse.

Thanks to you and Mr. Berton for furthering Sherlockian consciousness, and always remember that " . . . the impression of a woman may be more valuable than the conclusion of an analytical reasoner."

ANN CRAWFORD
President
Fibonacci Corp.

Goldens Bridge, N.Y.

Follow-up Letters to the Editor
Wall St. Journal's Jan.6th article. (Jan.24th issue).

* * *

The Journal printed a letter of mine some years ago, in which I corrected a Sherlock Holmes reference. "The dog which did not bark in the night" was not The Hound of the Baskervilles, but a guard dog in the story "Silver Blaze." From the Jan. 6 story I raise another Sherlockian point.

One of the Baker Street Irregulars has been given the nickname "The Giant Rat of Sumatra," described as "a nickname for a Holmes story." In fact, in "The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire," the story of the Rat is named as one "for which the world is not yet prepared." A fine nickname, but a story for which preparations continue.

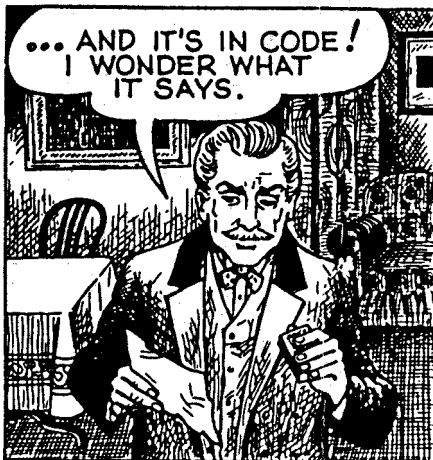
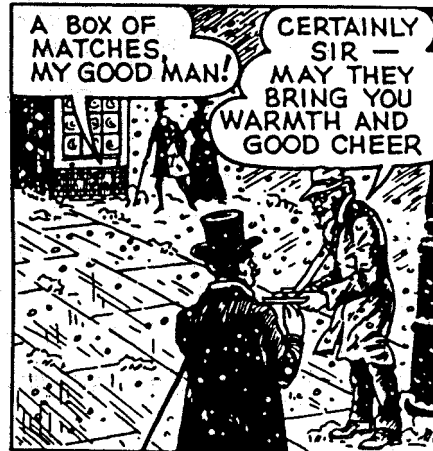
THOMAS J. MAGUIRE

San Rafael, Calif.

Forensic scientists follow in footsteps of Sherlock Holmes



V R



2 25 13 18 22 3 4 22 8 17 11 7,
 26 3 22 25 18 15 21 19 17 18 2 25 2 18 8 11 13 11 10
 22 21 24 19 22 16 7 8 16 7 6 25 11 19 4 16 8 1 8 1 18
 10 22 21 8 8 1 22 8 16 22 2 17 8 16 14 14
 22 14 16 12 18. 2 25 3 18 22 17 11 7 17 10 11 3
 8 1 16 17 13 18 21 18 26 8 16 11 7 4 16 14 14 5 18
 14 22 8 18 3 3 18 12 18 22 14 18 13.
 1 11 14 2 18 17.

CAN YOU CRACK THE CODE AND DECIPHER THE MESSAGE?