

The Bilge Pump

Vol. 02, No. 09 - September, 2014

The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the Barque Lone Star



From the Editors: We're getting ready to take a field trip to the 40th Anniversary of our sister society, the Afghanistan Perceivers in Tulsa. We are attaching another pastiche written by Jack Brazos III titled "THOU SHALT REMEMBER THE SABBATH TO KEEP IT HOLY."
Don, Steve, & Walt

October 5, 2014 Meeting

The next meeting (and future meetings) will be held on Sunday, October 5th, at **LA MADELEINE COUNTRY FRENCH CAFE**, in Addison. The restaurant is at 5290 Belt Line Rd #112, just east of the Tollway.

Following Baring-Gould's **Chronology of the Canon, "The Valley of Fear (Chapters 1-4),"** will be discussed (see page 5). A quiz on the reading will be conducted at the beginning of the meeting.

Each monthly meeting will also include toasts as well as general business, introductions, and general fellowship.

September 7, 2014 Meeting

Eighteen Sherlockians were present at La Madeleine for the September meeting. Jonathan and Maria provided the opening toast in both English and Spanish to commemorate those characters from Latin America in the Canon.

Walter and Bill both answered all the answers of the quiz (including tie-breakers), and shared in the prize. The contest was based on the story "The Dying Detective."

We discussed several announcements including: the trip to Tulsa for the Afghanistan Perceivers anniversary, upcoming Sherlockian plays, movie nights at Walter's home, holding a swap meet at the November meeting, and creating revised business cards for outreach.

Stu also discussed a wonderful book store he has discovered in Oxford, Maryland, called Mystery Loves Company Booksellers, which has a number of Sherlock Holmes-related books. You can see their booklist at: <http://www.mysterylovescompany.com/>

Allana discussed her proposed thesis, which will be on the lasting relevance of Sherlock Holmes. She will be interviewing society members who have been involved in Sherlockian activities for years.

We reviewed the Perot Museum murder mystery held on August 7, which went wonderfully. The Museum told us almost 300 attended the event, and have asked us to conduct another murder mystery next Spring during the International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition.

We held a discussion on the chemical/biological agent used by Culverton Smith to poison his nephew, as well as the attempted murder of Holmes (a good guess is ricin).

We also presented the new website and its contents, which is very impressive. Kudos to Rusty for all his work on the site.

The closing toast was given by Steve Mason from a passage of The Refugees, published in 1892. Although a fictional account, Doyle reveals his passion toward America at the end of the novel (see page 2).



For more information concerning our society, visit: <http://dfw-sherlock.org/>

You can follow us on Twitter at: [@barquelonestar](https://twitter.com/barquelonestar)

You can friend us on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/BarqueLoneStar>

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On America

From Conan Doyle's, *The Refugees*, January, 1893

It is not like France," said he. "It is not green and peaceful and smiling, but it is grand and strong and stern like Him who made it.

All this country of America, and all that stretches away towards yonder setting sun, will be the best gift of God to man.

For this has He held it concealed through all the ages, that now His own high purpose may be wrought upon it.

For here is a land which is innocent, which has no past guilt to atone for, no feud, nor ill custom, nor evil of any kind.

And as the years roll on all the weary and homeless ones, all who are stricken and landless and wronged, will turn their faces to it, even as we have done.

And hence will come a nation which will surely take all that is good and leave all that is bad, moulding and fashioning itself into the highest.

Do I not see such a mighty people, a people who will care more to raise their lowest than to exalt their richest—who will understand that there is more bravery in peace than in war, who will see that all men are brothers, and whose hearts will not narrow themselves down to their own frontiers, but will warm in sympathy with every noble cause the whole world through?

It will come, and when it comes, may God guard it, may God watch over it and direct it!"



New Scion for Sherlockian Coin Collectors

Greg D. Ruby

Back in June, I asked if there were any Hounds interested in forming a Sherlockian Numismatic Club. I'm pleased that several responded. I am pleased to report that on August 9th, seven brave souls gathered in Chicago during the American Numismatic Association's World's Fair of Money and formed The Fourth Garrideb. Those founding charter members are known as Syracusan Members - of the best period.

We are now a member club of the American Numismatic Association and will be recognized as a Scion by the Baker Street Irregulars.

Through the end of the year, we are accepting Charter members, who will be known as "of the Alexandrian school." Those joining after the clock hits 2015, will be regular members. Membership numbers are being assigned, but rather than being member #13, we will refer to them as the 13th Garrideb. Members 1, 2, and 3 are reserved for the Three Garridebs and the 4th is being held open in case we find another Garrideb.

A one-time fee of \$22.10 will allow a person to become a lifetime member and receive a membership certificate and a Garrideb dekadrachm, our homage to the BSI's investiture shilling. Those residing outside of the United States, please drop me a note and we will make other arrangements. Members are encouraged to choose an investiture name from one of the stories, or even the name of a story. I've chosen Inspector G. Lestrade as my nom de plume, as his updated character on BBC's *Sherlock* shares my first name. If a name is not chosen, I will pick a name for you. Also, the names of Holmes, Watson and Garrideb are not eligible to be chosen. I hope you consider joining us and I look forward to seeing what names you choose.

We also have a website, www.FourthGarrideb.com, where we will be posting our articles. If you are interested in becoming a member, please send a check for \$22.10 made payable to Greg D. Ruby and send to the address below. In addition, please send your mailing and email addresses, as well your Holmesian name. Best regards!

Greg Ruby, The Fourth Garrideb
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SEVENTEEN STEPS TO THE VALLEY OF FEAR

Brad Keefauver, BS1

THE FAME OF PROFESSOR MORIARTY

Watson calls Moriarty "The famous scientific criminal, as famous among crooks as...he is unknown to the public."

How does one manage fame among criminals, yet stay unknown to the public?

Surely criminals are the most untrustworthy, sell-their-mothers-for-a-price, hard-drinking, dim-witted blabbermouths on the planet, are they not?

Is Watson completely off base here, or is such undercover fame possible?

MACDONALD'S MANY QUESTIONS

"Twice already in his career had Holmes helped him to attain success, his own sole reward being the intellectual joy of the problem. For this reason the affection and respect of the Scotchman for his colleague were profound, and he showed them by the frankness which he consulted Holmes in every difficulty."

Wait a minute . . . Inspector MacDonald consults Holmes "in every difficulty," yet Holmes has only helped him to attain success twice?

Is this an indication Holmes's track record with the Yard is much over-estimated by his fans?

PROFESSOR OR EX-PROFESSOR?

Throughout the opening chapters of VALL, we hear of Moriarty referred to as a professor. Yet in "The Final Problem," Holmes calls him "ex-Professor Moriarty," telling how he lost his University job and has become an army coach.

Which job is Moriarty holding at the time of this story?

Have the "dark rumors" come up at this time to cost him his first job?

MORIARTY'S CURIOUS CHECKING ACCOUNTS

Holmes says, "I made it my business to hunt down some of Moriarty's checks lately-just common innocent checks he pays his household bills with. They were drawn on six different banks.

Does that make any impression on your mind?"

Okay, so Moriarty's hiding a lot of money. But why would he pay his everyday household bills from six accounts, especially if he was trying to keep a low profile?

Wouldn't he just keep one modest account for that purpose?

MILK IMPORTED FROM SUSSEX

"The inspector was himself dependent, as he explained to us, upon a scribbled account forwarded to him by the milk train in the early hours of the morning."

When Holmes and Watson were serving Thorneycroft Huxtable milk and cookies in "Priory School," how far away did the milk come from, and how fresh was the milk?

The early morning milk train of VALL evokes legions of Sussex milkmaids milking their cows in the middle of the night, then rushing the big milk cans to the depot to get the milk to London in time for the morning milk deliveries. Is that anywhere close to the actual timetable of milk in motion?

THE SOCIAL LIFE IN BIRLSTONE

In describing the way fifty-year-old John Douglas became popular in Birlstone, Watson reports a social schedule that seems slightly cryptic to the modern American. Douglas was "subscribing handsomely to all local objects, and attending their smoking concerts and other functions."

We also read: "Though a wretched rider, he turned out at every meet, and took the most amazing falls in his determination to hold his own with the best."

Local objects? Smoking concerts? Riding at meets?

Whatever these things are, it sounds like John is being quite socially proactive. On the other hand, his wife is not so lucky:

"His wife, too, was popular with those who had made her acquaintance; though, after the English fashion, the callers upon a stranger who settled in the county without introductions were few..."

The husband gads about while the wife sits at home waiting for callers?

What's this telling us about Victorian social conventions?

A WEAPON FOR ASSASSINATION

"Lying across his chest was a curious weapon, a shotgun with the barrel sawed off a foot in front of the triggers... The triggers had been wired together, so as to make the simultaneous discharge more destructive."

As we see in this tale, the sawed-off, double-barrelled shotgun is a devastating weapon.

Would such a gun be altered as above for any reason except murder?

While one might consider sawing off a gun for a defensive weapon, does wiring the triggers together imply the bearer knows exactly how many targets he'll be shooting at in advance, and thus make it more specifically a murder weapon?

ONE MORE CHEST OF FACTS IN THE BRAIN-ATTIC

White Mason asks Holmes, "Do you carry the names of all the gun makers in the world in your memory?"

Holmes waves off the question, but Mason does seem impressed with the detective's identification of the handiwork of the Pennsylvania Small Arms Company.

Still, we have to wonder about the answer to Mason's question: could Holmes have conceivably known the names of all the gun makers?

How many were there worldwide in the 1880s?

THE AMAZING CHANDOS!

Perhaps it's a trivial thing, there's a name in this tale that strikes me a bit odd.

The former employer of Ames the butler is Sir Charles Chandos, the title and first name of which sound very British . . . but Chandos?

Where might the Chandos line have hailed from?

Is it the name one would expect of a country squire, or more something for a foreign mesmerist?

SO WATSON IS WRITING A BOOK, EH?

"I am sure we are honoured by your presence and to show you all we know," White Mason says to Holmes and Watson, following it with: "Come along, Dr. Watson, and when the time comes we'll all hope for a place in your book."

According to an earlier chapter, this is late in the 1880s, a time at which Watson had only published "A Study in Scarlet," and hadn't really hit his great literary fame. Yet Mason knows Watson is writing "a book."

Was Watson taking notes on Holmes's cases at that point with the idea of collecting them all into a book?

Why didn't VALL wind up in "Adventures" or "Memoirs" if such was the case?

A MAN AND HIS BICYCLE

Of the villain's bicycle, we learn: "It was a well used Rudge-Whitworth, splashed as from a considerable journey.

There was a saddlebag with spanner and oilcan, but no clue as to the owner."

No clue? Surely a student of Holmes would argue every well-used object bears some indications as to its owner.

What can we tell from these few details of the bicycle?

Also, "A cycle map of the county lay on his bedroom table."

What would have made a cycle map different from a normal map?

Were there trails specifically for bicycles in those days?

BUY A YELLOW COAT, GO ON A CRIME SPREE!

Of the suspected murderer, Inspector MacDonald reports: "He is at present reported from Leicester, Nottingham, Southampton, Derby, East Ham, Richmond, and fourteen other places.

In three of them--East Ham, Leicester, and Liverpool--there is a clear case against him, and he has actually been arrested.

The country seems to be full of the fugitives with yellow coats."

Why all the yellow coats? Was yellow in particular fashion in late 1880s England?

And when MacDonald says "there is a clear case against him," does he mean a case for the Douglas murder, or a case for another crime?

Why would ne'er-do-wells favor this coat fashion?

Could Moriarty have been planning a "Yellow Coat Murder Special" day, in which he flooded the country with yellow-coated assassins and red herrings to cause confusion and cover-ups nationwide?

(Porlock getting Sherlock conveniently out of town as it begins.)

THE AMERICAN IN THE TOURIST SITE

Holmes announces he has read "a short but clear and interesting account of the old building, purchasable at the modest sum of one penny from the local tobacconist," which turns out to be "a small tract, embellished with a rude engraving of the ancient Manor House."

Was it normal for an inhabited home to have tourist-type brochures about it at a local business?

Was Birstone the seat of a nice tourist trade, to make such a brochure worthwhile?

How would such an esteemed edifice fall so easily into the hands of a newcomer from America?

THE FAMOUS FACE OF DR. WATSON

John Douglas appears from nowhere, looks at everyone, then hands Watson a bundle of paper.

"I've heard of you," he then says. "You are the historian of this bunch. Well, Dr. Watson, you've never had such a story as that pass through your hands before..."

"Tell it your own way; but there are the facts, and you can't miss the public so long as you have those. I've been cooped up two days, and I've spent the daylight hours-- as much daylight as I could get in that rat trap--in putting the thing into words.

"You're welcome to them--you and your public. There's the story of the Valley of Fear."

Wait a minute . . . Watson is so famous not only does Douglas recognize him on sight, he also hands him the details of the case so he can write it up?

Watson's true fame didn't come until after Moriarty's death, didn't it?

How did Douglas know so much about the literary doctor?

THE WICKED THINGS HE DID IN HIS BEDROOM

"In his bedroom at his new abode McMurdo felt it safe to take out the coining moulds, and under many a pledge of secrecy a number of brothers from the lodge were allowed to come in and see them, each carrying away in his pocket some examples of the false money, so cunningly struck there was never the slightest difficulty or danger in passing it."

Is making counterfeit coins on one's bedroom a feasible endeavor?

What coins would McMurdo have been making, and what metals might he have used to make them with?

Wouldn't his landlord have complained about the smell or mess?

(He says, "I was helping Uncle Sam to make dollars. Maybe mine were not as good gold as his, but they looked as well and were cheaper to make." But wouldn't twenty-dollar gold pieces have been better still?)

THE RITUAL TOAST OF THE SCOWRERS

When it comes time for McMurdo and Baldwin to kiss and make up, Boss McGinty says, "Let us drink the quarrelling toast of the lodge. After that, as you know, there can be no bad blood between us."

"The toast, apparently, goes like this. You put your left hand around your Adam's apple (A manly toast, this! and say, "The clouds are heavy.

The person your quarrel was with replies, "But they will forever brighten."

It doesn't say whether one man or both says the last line before drinking, but both would seem most natural for the words involved, "And this I swear!"

Any ideas where this toast or hand-around-the-throat gesture comes from?

Do other secret societies use such toasts to settle fights?

BEGGING FOR TIME, OR CALLING HIS SHOT?

"Do you say no one can ever get level with this king devil?" Barker asks, after learning it was Moriarty who finally got Douglas.

"No, I don't say that," Holmes replies with eyes that "seemed to be looking far into the future." "I don't say he can't be beat. But you must give me time -- you must give me time!"

One is not quite sure how to read Holmes's last words from VALL. Is he begging Barker's patience?

That exclamation point at the end makes it seem more a plea than a cool, calculated promise.

Does Holmes feel he owes Barker? Would Barker eventually go so far as to hire Holmes to bring down the murderer of his friend Douglas?

Cant Get Enough of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle ?

After you have read through the Canon for the 20th time, you may decide you want to read other fiction by Conan Doyle, as well as other categories of material written by Doyle.

There is a wonderful website which has a very comprehensive collection of Doyle's writings: [The Conan Doyle Encyclopedia](http://www.sshf.com/encyclopedia/index.php/Main_Page), which can be found at:

http://www.sshf.com/encyclopedia/index.php/Main_Page

This website contains a wealth of information on Doyle, including:

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|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Biography▪ Chronology▪ Complete Works<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fictions<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sherlock Holmes▪ Prof. Challenger▪ Brigadier Gerard | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sir Nigel▪ Captain Sharkey▪ All fictions▪ Essays▪ Plays▪ Interviews▪ Speeches | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Prefaces▪ Poems▪ Illustrators▪ Periodicals▪ Publishers <p>ACD on screen</p> |
|---|---|---|

The website also provides a very concise chronology of Doyle's life, for your reference.

BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

- 22 May 1859: Birth of Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle in Edinburgh, second child of Charles Altamont Doyle and Mary Foley.
- 1870-1875: Attended school at the Jesuit Stonyhurst Public School.
- 1875-1876: Spent year at Jesuit college in Austria, Feldkirch, to improve his German.
- August 1876: Sojourned in Paris to his great-uncle and godfather, Michael Conan. Conan's name will be given in tribute to him.
- Fall 1876: Attended Edinburgh University of Medecine. Two teachers, surgeon of the hospital, Joseph Bell, and Rutherford, served as model of inspiration for his characters of Sherlock Holmes and Professor Challenger (The Lost World)
- 1878-1879: Worked as assistant physician.
- September and December 1879: Publication of first short stories: The Mystery of Sasassa Valley (in Chambers' Journal) and The American's Tale (in London Society).
- February-September 1880: Surgeon on the whaler Hope bound in Arctic.
- October 1881-January 1882: Graduated in medicine and surgery. Sailed as doctor aboard Mayumba, which sailed to coast of Guinea.
- 1882: Opened office in Plymouth and in Southsea, Portsmouth. Published more stories, including My Friend the Murderer (in London Society).
- 1884: Began first novel, The Firm of Girdlestone (published in April 1890).
- 1885: August, married Louise Hawkins, the sister of one of his patients.
- March-April 1886: A Study in Scarlet, first Sherlock Holmes adventure, rejected by several publishers before finding buyer (accepted by letter dated 30 October 1886 by Ward, Lock & Co.).
- 1887: Organized spiritualism séances, activity will devote himself throughout life, marked by numerous writings and lectures worldwide.
- December 1887: Publication of A Study in Scarlet in Beeton's Christmas Annual.
- January 1889: Birth of daughter Mary Louise.
- February 1889: Publication of Micah Clarke, "It was the first solid corner-stone laid for some sort of literary reputation" wrote in memoirs.
- February 1890: American magazine Lippincott's Magazine published The Sign of Four, the second adventure of Sherlock Holmes. Then in April, began writing The White Company which will end in July 1890 (published from January to December 1891 in The Cornhill Magazine).
- December 1890: Doyle closed his medical practice in Portsmouth and decided to specialize in ophthalmology.
- January-March 1891: Studied ophthalmology in Vienna before returning to London via Paris to meet Landolt, specialist in ophthalmology.
- End march 1891: Opened practice in London, 2 Upper Wimpole Street.
- August 1891: Gave up medicine and became full time writer. He moved to South Norwood (12 Tennison Road).
- July 1891: Publication of A Scandal in Bohemia, first adventure of Sherlock Holmes as a short story in The Strand Magazine.
- Summer 1892: Trip in Norway with Jerome K. Jerome. Discovered pleasure of skiing in Switzerland and introduce this practice as a recreational sport a few months later.
- October 1892: Publication of The Great Shadow (story where the author expressed his fascination for Napoleon).
- November 1892: Birth of his son Kingsley.
- May 1893: Publication of The Refugees (story in the tradition of The Three Musketeers by Alexandre Dumas).
- August 1893-October 1895: Wife Louise suffered from tuberculosis. While investigating cure in Switzerland, traveled to Lucerne at Meiringen discovered location to use for the Final Problem, Reichenbach Falls.
- October 1893: Death of his father.
- December 1893: Strand Magazine published The Adventure of the Final Problem, where Sherlock Holmes and Professor Moriarty fell at Reichenbach Falls (Switzerland) freeing the author who wishes to devote to a "more serious literary work."



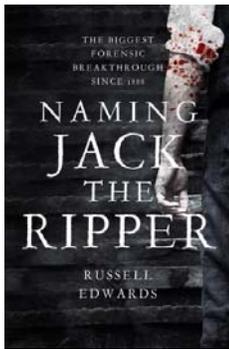
- December 1894: Publication of The Parasite and The Medal of Brigadier Gerard (Napoleonic story announcing a long series).
- 1895: Publication of The Exploits of Brigadier Gerard in The Strand Magazine.
- Spring 1895: Returned to England. Decided to build house in Surrey to treat tuberculosis.
- November 1895-1896: Travelled to Egypt for wife, during completion of construction of house in Surrey. Found inspiration for The Tragedy of the Korosko (published in 1898). Witnessed conflict between British and dervishes. Became war correspondent for Westminster Gazette.
- November 1896: Publication of Rodney Stone (novel about boxing).
- January 1897: Publication of first pirate adventure of Captain Sharkey in Pearson's Magazine. Two others will follow in March-May.
- 15 March 1897: While visiting London, falls in love for woman in twenties, Jean Leckie. For respect to wife, began a platonic relationship.
- May 1897: Publication of Uncle Bernac, a Napoleonic novel.
- 1899: Written with actor William Gillette, his play Sherlock Holmes is produced on stage. Gillette as the detective, during thirty-three years.
- February 1900: Visits South Africa in Bloemfontein during Boer War. Met young Winston Churchill. Returned to England on 10 July.
- October 1900: Defeated in parliamentary elections as Unionist candidate in Edinburgh.
- August 1901: Publication in The Strand Magazine of The Hound of the Baskervilles.
- 1900-1902: Publication of The Great Boer War and The War in South Africa: Its Cause and Conduct, and earned knighthood.
- 9 August 1902: Knighted by king, he becomes Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (in The Adventure of the Three Garridebs, Sherlock receives same proposal in June 1902 but refused it).
- September 1903: After success of The Hound of the Baskervilles, American publisher offered him 45,000 pounds for 13 new adventures of Holmes. Accepted and resurrected hero in The Adventure of the Empty House. Finally delivered 33 new adventures until March 1927.
- January 1904: Continued research on the Middle Ages, interrupted by Boer War, to write a novel, whose action takes place before The White Company, which will be serialized in The Strand Magazine in 1905 and 1906 under the title Sir Nigel.
- August 1905: On occasion of signing of the Entente Cordiale, he received at his home in Surrey, a delegation of French naval officers, on an official visit, led by Vice Admiral Caillard.
- January 1906: New electoral defeat.
- July 1906: Death of wife Louise.
- 1907: Demonstrated innocence and helps to free George Edalji, victim of a miscarriage of justice.
- 18 September 1907: Married Jean Leckie. Edalji is invited.
- 1908: Moved to Crowborough in Sussex.
- 17 May 1909: Birth of his son Denis.
- 1910: Helped Oscar Slater, accused of murder, avoid death penalty; commuted to life in prison and innocence recognized in 1927.
- 19 November 1910: Birth of son Adrian (who wrote The Exploits of Sherlock Holmes with John Dickson Carr).
- April 1912: Publication of The Lost World.
- 1912: Birth of his daughter Jean.
- 1913: Campaigning for the Channel Tunnel.
- 1914: Tour in North America.
- August 1914: After declaration of war with Germany, formed a group of local volunteers.
- September 1914 - May 1915: Publication of The Valley of Fear, a Sherlock Holmes' novel, in The Strand Magazine.
- 1916: During war, reports on French and Italian fronts. He met, among others, Clemenceau in Paris.
- October 1917: Publication of short story His Last Bow where Sherlock Holmes appears on the eve of the First World War, which is the latest adventure of the hero from a chronological point of view.
- 1918: Eldest son Kingsley died of Spanish flu, weakened by a war wound received during the Battle of the Somme.
- 1920: Met Harry Houdini, and became friends.
- 1920-1923: World tour on spiritualism.
- 1921: Death of mother. His wife discovered mediumnic talents.
- 1922: Gave credit to young girls who claim to have photographed fairies at Cottingley. Publication of The Coming of the Fairies.
- September 1924: Publication of his autobiography Memories and Adventures.
- Summer 1925: Opened The Psychic Bookshop, 2 Victoria Street, London.
- March 1927: Publication of its latest Sherlock Holmes short story in Liberty magazine, The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place.
- 1928: Presides the Global Spiritualist Congress in London.
- 7 July 1930: Exhausted by lectures worldwide, died of heart attack at home.



Jack the Ripper Was Polish Immigrant Aaron Kosminski, Book Claims

The Guardian, December 8

[Jack the Ripper is by far the most non-Canonical character in the long list of pastiches written over the years (over 100 times according to Phillip Jones). It should be noted many experts are questioning the validity of the author's claims]



A self-confessed "armchair detective" claims to have solved perhaps the most notorious whodunit ever by claiming to have discovered the identity of Jack the Ripper.

Russell Edwards claims Aaron Kosminski, a 23 year-old Polish immigrant who ended up dying in an asylum, was "definitely, categorically and absolutely" the man behind the grisly killing spree in 1888 in London's East End.

Edwards said a blood-stained shawl he bought in 2007 after an auction in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, held vital DNA evidence which led him to the killer.

"I've got the only piece of forensic evidence in the whole history of the case," he said. "I've spent 14 years working on it, and we have definitively solved the mystery of who Jack the Ripper was.

"Only non-believers that want to perpetuate the myth will doubt. This is it now – we have unmasked him."

Jack the Ripper murdered at least five women, slashing their throats, removing some of their internal organs and leaving their mutilated bodies in alleyways in Whitechapel.

Edwards, 48, from Barnet, north London, was "captivated" by the murder mystery and had been investigating it in his spare time.

In 2007 he saw a shawl found by the body of Catherine Eddowes, one of the Ripper's victims, was up for sale.

He bought it, and enlisted the help of Jari Louhelainen, an expert in molecular biology, who used pioneering techniques to find DNA from her blood and that of the killer.

"Here I am with the shawl and possibly the evidence to solve the most unsolvable murder in English criminal history. But where do I start? That was the big question.

"I enlisted the help of Jari and we embarked on a three-and-a-half year journey.

"When we discovered the truth it was the most amazing feeling of my entire life."

However, other Ripper experts cast doubt on the claims.

Richard Cobb, who runs Jack the Ripper conventions and tours, told the Times that the shawl had been touched by many people over the years, which made any DNA samples less reliable.

"The shawl has been openly handled by loads of people and been touched, breathed on, spat upon," Cobb said.

Edwards said the discovery 126 years after the murders proves beyond doubt that Kosminski – one of the six key suspects commonly cited as the Ripper – was the killer. His book on the subject, Naming Jack the Ripper, is published in the UK on Tuesday 9 September.

He said the shawl had been taken by acting Sergeant Amos Simpson,

who was on duty the night of Eddowes's death and wanted it for his wife.

But horrified at the blood-soaked wrap, she never wore it, and it was stored away and passed down through the generations until it came to auction seven years ago.

Mr Edwards said: "Thank God the shawl has never been washed, as it held the vital evidence."

The author, who said he was part-inspired to take up the search for the killer after watching the Johnny Depp film From Hell about the Ripper murders, said police had identified Kosminski as a suspect, but never had enough evidence to bring him to trial.

Kosminski was a Polish Jewish immigrant who, fleeing persecution by Poland's Russian rulers, came with his family to England in 1881 and lived in Mile End Old Town.

He was admitted to a string of lunatic asylums, where he died in 1899 of gangrene in the leg.



HOW MUCH IS ANSWERING A SHERLOCK HOLMES QUESTION WORTH ?

Steve Mason

So, sometimes you find the smallest treasures when you least expect it. In the past month, while wandering the back ways of the internet, I found a mention to Captain Thomas and Bobbye O'Rourke, who each won \$32,000 on the old \$ 64,000 Quiz Show back in May, 1956, each answering trivia questions concerning Sherlock Holmes.

While Captain O'Rourke was stationed in Dayton, Ohio, he and his wife were invited to participate in the game show, where they both answered an increasingly harder series of questions about the sleuth and his companion, Dr. Watson.

The original questions were developed by Dr. Bergen Evans, a professor of English at Northwestern University.

In the higher dollar categories, the questions required multiple answers, with all parts requiring correct answers.

Using the money they won, the couple moved to Naples Florida and opened up their own business.

By the way, a Captain Thomas Walker, NYC Police, won \$32,000 on the show (renamed the \$128,000 Question) in late 1976, also answered a series of Sherlockian questions.

If his name seems familiar, it may be. Captain Walker wrote the novel, *Fort Apache*, which was the inspiration for the movie, *Fort Apache, the Bronx* in 1971 with Paul Newman.

Walker's questions included:

- In the Final Problem, what did Watson find at the Reichenbach Falls that belonged to Sherlock Holmes?

- Name the case in which our hero employed the following disguise: One – an elderly master mariner; Two – a drunken groom; Three – an Italian priest; Four – An Irish-American espionage agent; Five – a strange, old bookseller.
- In which story does Billy, Holmes' page, mention that Holmes disguised himself as an old woman?

Captain Walker answered the first question with "a silver cigarette case," which was deemed incorrect, in lieu of an Alpenstock.

However at the beginning of the next show, the host announced both responses were correct (a member of the BSI provided the right answers), so Walker was brought back on the show to continue competing.

The answers to the other questions were:

- *The Sign of Four*; "A Scandal in Bohemia"; "The Last Bow"; "The Empty House"
- "The Mazarin Stone"

I was able to find the original questions posed to Mr. and Mrs. O'Rourke, through the help of Julie McKuris, BSI, and the University of Minnesota, Sherlock Holmes collection, which are presented on the pages 10 and 11.

How London's statues are finding their voice

Statues of the great and good across the capital and Manchester will be able to chat to passers-by thanks to smartphone technology

Public statues across London and Manchester will clear their throats and begin speaking for themselves on Tuesday, thanks to a scheme from "public interventions" company Sing London, with funding from the Digital R&D Fund for the Arts.

A group of heavyweight writers was signed up to put words into the statues' mouths while familiar figures of stage and screen recorded the monologues that give voice to 35 majestic men and women (plus two cats and a goat), transforming them from stony strangers into garrulous fountains of living history for a year.

A marble child in Manchester Central Library, for instance, will produce a monologue written by Jacqueline Wilson and spoken by Dr Who's Jenna Coleman, while the first world war Tommy in London's Paddington Station has been brought to life by Tony Harrison and actor Patrick Stewart.

"I hadn't planned to have all these stars," says the company's artistic director, Colette Hiller. "I just wanted to get the technology right."

It's technology that aims to bring you physically as well as emotionally closer to the subjects.

Once in front of a statue, a "heritage plaque" on its plinth offers you three ways to hear its story: a link to type into your web browser, a QR barcode or a near field communication (NFC) chip that can be tapped with any supporting phone to trigger a speech.

"You don't need to download anything," explains Hiller. "It's all about having a spontaneous moment. Your phone will just ring and it will say, 'Sherlock Holmes is on the phone for you' and the monologue begins."

The Sherlock Holmes statue is given a voice by Anthony Horowitz and Ed Stoppard.

Conversations last just about two minutes and every statue has a different tale to tell.

And while the monologue stays true to character, it is interspersed with a healthy dose of humor, making it entertaining for everyone.

For example, the regal Queen Victoria, starts with "Thank you for calling me on this strange machine. I have become very bored sitting here all day holding an extremely heavy scepter and orb."

She then goes on to rant about the increasing traffic on the bridge and ends her speech by urging the listener to visit the Victoria exhibition at her childhood home, Kensington Palace.

Sherlock Holmes starts by lamenting about the fact that Dr. Watson is not by his side, and then draws the listener's attention to 'the suspicious looking man that just entered the bureau de change'.

Abraham Lincoln who stands proud and tall in Manchester's Lincoln Square, educates his audience about why a British city decided to name an entire area, in his honor.



The \$ 64,000 Questions

Interestingly, there are two published versions of the questions posed to Captain and Mrs. O'Rourke. In 1984, the *Five Pound Note* published a list of questions faced by the couple. These are provided below. In July, 1956, *the Baker Street Journal* also published their version of the questions, which are provided on the page 12. Many of the questions are do not match up, with no explanation between the two publications.

We will provide the answers to both versions of the questions in next month's issue. SEE HOW YOU CAN DO ON THESE?

From the Five Pound Note, 1984

\$ 64.00 Questions

- a) Name "the woman."
- b) Who was the leader of the Baker Street Irregulars?
- c) Who Introduced Holmes to Watson (name the individual and the story in which he appears)

\$ 128.00 Questions

- a) Name Holmes addresses:
 - 1) Before Watson
 - 2) After Watson
 - 3) After retirement
- b) Who was Holmes' and Watson's landlady?
- c) Who was Holmes' only friend in college (name the individual and the story in which he appears)

\$ 256.00 Questions

- a) Watson was wounded in what War?
- b) Who did Watson play rugby for?
- c) In what battle was Watson wounded?
- d) Name the Adventure in which the following appeared:
 - 1) Worthington Bank Gang
 - 2) Lewisham Gang
 - 3) The Scowers
- e) To what military organizations did the following belong:
 - 1) Colonel Sebastian Moran
 - 2) Colonel James Barclay
 - 3) Jonathan Small
 - 4) Dr. Grimesby Roycott

\$ 500.00 Questions

- a) Where did Holmes keep his:
 - 1) Tobacco
 - 2) Cigars
 - 3) Unanswered correspondence
- b) Name the Adventure the following animals appear:
 - 1) A baboon
 - 2) Part mastiff, part bloodhound
 - 3) A mongoose
 - 4) A goose

- c) Who was murdered in the following Adventures and by what means where they murdered:

- 1) Abbey Grange
- 2) Devil's Foot
- 3) Cardboard Box
- 4) Retired Colourman
- 5) Reigate Puzzle

\$ 1,000.00 Questions

- a) Name or describe the disguises Holmes assumed in the following Adventures:
 - 1) C.A. Milverton
 - 2) Black Peter
 - 3) Mazarin Stone
 - 4) Final Problem
 - 5) Beryl Coronet
- b) Name the Adventure in which the following appeared:
 - 1) Prince of Colona
 - 2) Countess of Morecar
 - 3) Achmet the Merchant
 - 4) Alexander Holder
 - 5) Lord Cantlemore
- c) Name Moriarty's Chief of Staff.
- d) Name the famous painting Moriarty owned.
- e) Name the publications by Moriarty.

\$ 2,000.00 Questions

- a) Who was the:
 - 1) most dangerous man in London?
 - 2) second most dangerous man in London?
 - 3) fourth smartest man in London?
 - 4) worst man in London?
 - 5) third most daring man?
 - 6) most beautiful woman in London?
- b) Who comes to Holmes for help in these Adventures:
 - 1) Second Stain
 - 2) Solitary Cyclist
 - 3) Dancing Man
 - 4) Bruce Partington Plans
 - 5) Creeping Man
 - 6) Blanched Solider

- c) In what Adventure did the following jewels appear?
- 1) Black Pearl of the Borgia's
 - 2) Stone belonging to Countess of Morecar
 - 3) Stone belonging to Lord Cantlemore
 - 4) Great Agra Treasure

\$ 4,000.00 Questions

- a) Name ALL the members comprising the:
- 1) Sign of Four
 - 2) Three Students
- b) In what Adventure did the following characters appear?
- 1) Abe Slaney
 - 2) Lord Holdhurst
 - 3) Kitty Winter
 - 4) John Rance
 - 5) Silas Brown
- c) Name the Adventure in which the following clues appeared:
- 1) A dumb bell
 - 2) Tarred string
 - 3) Beeswing in glass
 - 4) Cloven hoofs
 - 5) Thumb print
 - 6) Fresh glossy horse
 - 7) Fresh paint

\$ 8,000.00 Questions

- a) Identify the Adventure in which the following appear:
- 1) Tradannick Wortha
 - 2) Pondicherry Lodge
 - 3) Holderness Hall
 - 4) Hurlstone
 - 5) Birlstone Manor House
 - 6) Tuxbury Old Place
 - 7) Chessman's
- b) Name the ship mentioned in the following Adventures:
- 1) Resident Patient
 - 2) Study in Scarlet
 - 3) Abbey Grange
 - 4) Five Orange Pips
 - 5) Illustrious Client
 - 6) Black Peter

\$ 16,000.00 Questions

- a) What country homes were mentioned in the following Adventures:

- 1) Naval Treaty
- 2) Golden Pince Nez
- 3) Greek Interpreter
- 4) Sign of Four
- 5) Man with Twisted Lip
- 6) Solitary Cyclist
- 7) Devil's Foot

- b) Name the alias' of the following characters:

- 1) John Clay
- 2) Don Juan Murillo
- 3) Henry Peters
- 4) Birdie Edwards
- 5) Professor Corum
- 6) James Armitage
- 7) Sutton
- 8) Stapleton
- 9) Miss Burnet
- 10) James Windibank

Following are the questions which won the O'Rourke's \$32,000 each. After successfully answering these questions, the O'Rourkes decided they had gone as far as they could, and withdrew from the program.

\$ 32,000.00 Questions

- a) Name the murderers of the following victims:
- 1) Barthomew Sholto
 - 2) Ronald Adair
 - 3) Ted Baldwin
 - 4) Peter Carey
 - 5) Julia Stoner
 - 6) Dr. Ray Ernest
 - 7) John Straker
 - 8) Ronder
- b) Name the kind of animal and the Adventure in which it appears:
- 1) Shoscombe Prince
 - 2) Silver Blaze
 - 3) Teddy
 - 4) Roy
 - 5) Toby
 - 6) Pompey
 - 7) Carlo
 - 8) Carlo



Michael A. Hoey, who wrote the screenplays for a pair of Elvis Presley films and was the architect behind the 1966 cult science-fiction movie *The Navy vs. the Night Monsters*, has died. He was 79. Hoey, the son of English actor Dennis Hoey — who played the bumbling Inspector Lestrade in the 1940s Universal Pictures series of Sherlock Holmes films starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce — died Sunday of cancer at his home in San Clemente, California., his son Dennis told *The Hollywood Reporter*.

Michael Hoey also produced, wrote, directed and edited several episodes of the 1980s music drama series *Fame*, based on the Alan Parker box-office hit. He earned two Emmy Award nominations for his work on the show and wrote a behind-the-scenes book about the series that was published in 2010. Hoey penned the scripts for the Presley films *Stay Away, Joe* and *Live a Little, Love a Little*, both released in 1968. For the latter, he worked with director Norman Taurog, who also helmed the teen comedy *Palm Springs Weekend* (1963), a film that Hoey produced.

In *The Navy vs. the Night Monsters*, a staff manning a weather station on an isolated island fights for survival against a carnivorous plant-like species that spews acid, moves around at night and reproduces quickly. The cast included Anthony Eisely, Mamie Van Doren, Bobby Van and Billy Gray, best known as the son on *Father Knows Best*. Jack Broder produced (with an uncredited assist from Roger Corman) and gave the movie what Hoey once called its "abominable" title.



"I remember the day when I was rehearsing and Jack Broder walked in and announced what the new title was going to be," Hoey told author Tom Weaver. "The entire cast was ready to walk out. They were furious."

In the interview with Weaver, Hoey said the film had a 10-day shooting schedule and cost \$178,000 to make.

Born in London and raised in Beverly Hills, Hoey began his Hollywood career as an editor, working for such top-notch directors as John Ford, George Cukor and Fred Zinnemann. Studio head Jack Warner made him a producer for *Palm Springs Weekend*, which starred Troy Donahue, Robert Conrad, Stefanie Powers and Connie Stevens. Hoey later would direct episodes of *Dallas*, *Falcon Crest*, *Murder, She Wrote* and *Crossroads Café*; wrote for the shows *The Rat*

Patrol, *Get Christie Love!* and *McCloud*; and served for years as executive producer of the Creative Arts Emmy Awards.

He wrote the book *Elvis, Sherlock and Me: How I Survived Growing Up In Hollywood* (published in 2007), in which Hoey extensively discussed his father Dennis Hoey's early life, career, marriages and death, as well as his own experiences working in film.



Hoey's book, *Sherlock Holmes and the Fabulous Faces: The Universal Pictures Repertory Company*, (2011) in which he discussed the lives and careers of the many character actors and actresses who supported Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce in the 12 Holmes films made at Universal

between 1942-1946.

Michael's father, Dennis, (Samuel/Shmuel Hyams) of Brighton, played Inspector Lestrade opposite Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce in the Universal Pictures Sherlock Holmes series of the 1940s.



He also wrote about his experiences working on the TV series *Fame* in his 2010 book *Inside Fame on Television: A Behind the Scenes History*.

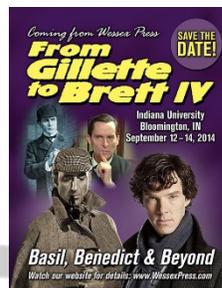
He served two four-year terms as a governor on the board of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, and the WGA honored him with its prestigious Morgan Cox Award in 1997.

Hoey asked that his film books be donated to the USC School of Cinematic Arts, where he taught editing as an adjunct professor.

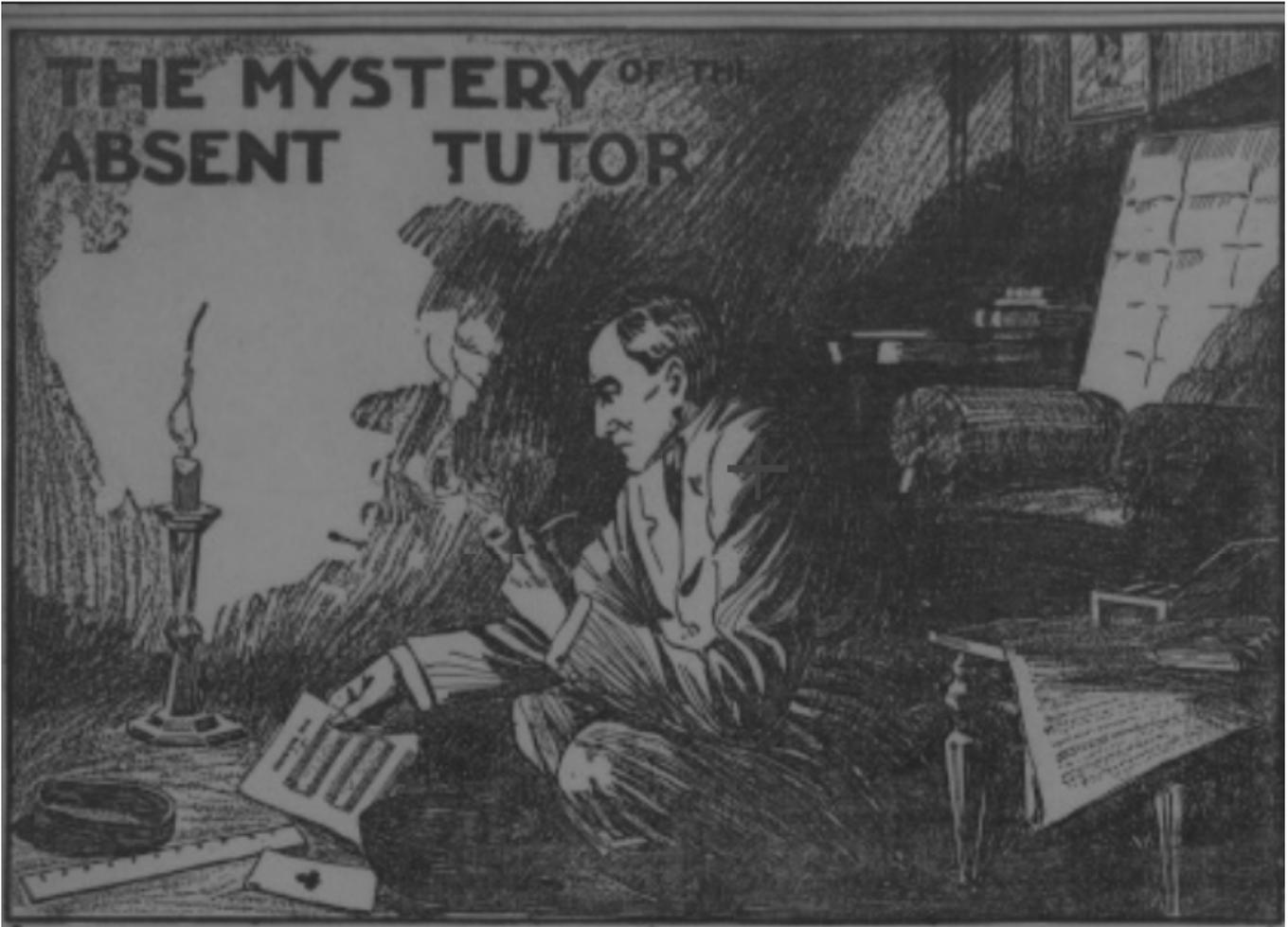
In addition to his son Dennis, a former Hollywood makeup artist and producer of TV commercials, survivors include his daughters Lauren and Karin.

The family plans a small memorial service, with his ashes scattered at sea.

Wessex Press had the privilege of hosting Michael as a Special Guest at two *From Gillette to Brett* conferences, where his fellowship made him a favorite with everyone in attendance.



He was scheduled to appear yet again this month at *From Gillette to Brett IV*, where his book "The Drury Lane Mystery," published by Wessex Press, will debut.



Sherlock Holmes immediately proceeded to solve the mystery of the absent tutor.

"It is plain to me," said he, "that the tutor, when he left the house, expected to join a party of his associates."

"How do you tell that?" asked the listener.

"Because of this clew— this metal band," said Holmes, picking it up from the table.

"I also see by this rule," continued the detective, "how the tutor left the house. The card tells me where he went. The piece of music tells me how many dollars he had with him and the dish tells me what he expected to do when he reached his destination."

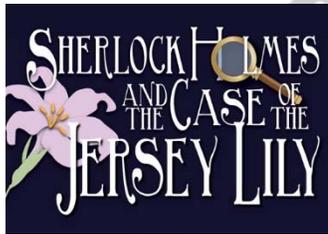
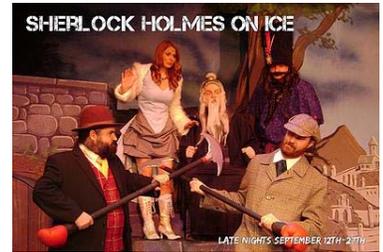
See if you can discover what information the different clews which Sherlock Holmes mentioned gave to that astute detective.

THREE MORE PLAYS FOR US TO ATTEND

Sherlock Holmes On Ice

Opening on September 12 in the Late Night at The Pocket slot at 11:15 p.m. is "Sherlock Holmes On Ice," by Ben Schroth, a comedy spoof and melodrama (boo-hiss) of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's novels. Can we depend on Sherlock Holmes to succeed in his mission to save the day? If you'd like something a little saucy for after dark, leave the kiddies at home and find out! Doors open at 10:30 p.m. for munchies and drinks. Show time at 11:15 p.m.

September 12 & 13, 19 & 20, 26 & 27 5400 E. MOCKINGBIRD, #119 DALLAS, TX 75206
BOX OFFICE: (214) 821-1860 (2 - 6 P.M. DAILY)



"Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily"

The cunning of Sherlock Holmes meets the wit of Oscar Wilde in this exciting new play involving blackmail, theatre, and love. (comedy/mystery)

Rover Dramawerks, 521 J Place

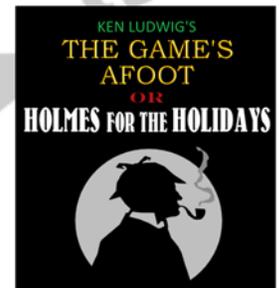
Plano, Texas Sept. 11-27 www.roverdramawerks.com

Holmes' for the holidays

Carpenter Square in Oklahoma City will put an interesting twist on the resurgent popularity of Sherlock Holmes with its Nov. 28-Dec. 20 production of Ken Ludwig's comedic mystery "The Game's Afoot, Or Holmes for the Holidays." The 2012 Edgar Allen Poe Award winner for best new play was inspired by real-life Broadway actor William Gillette, who was renowned for playing Sherlock Holmes.

"This man actually built a huge castle-like home back in Connecticut. ... He invites people over a for holiday gathering, and when someone ends up dead, (he thinks) 'Hmm, well, I've played Sherlock Holmes all my life. I'll get to the bottom of this,'" said Clark, who will direct.

csttix@coxinet.net Phone: (405) 232-6500 Carpenter Square Theatre
806 West Main Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73106



Sherlock Holmes character' held on forgery charge

By KOIN 6 News staff

Published: September 12, 2014, 4:37 pm Updated: September 12, 2014, 7:06 pm

LINCOLN CITY, Ore. (KOIN 6) — A man who told authorities his name is Quentin G. Stanhope is in jail on forgery charges. But authorities don't think that's his name.

Quentin G. Stanhope is a spy character in a Sherlock Holmes book [Castle Rouge by our own Carole Nelson Douglas], and he's been using the name since about 2005, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office said.

Stanhope was arrested after his home and business, Q-Tax & Bookkeeping Services, were searched. He's being held on \$1.5 million bail on first-degree forgery, first-degree theft and identity theft charges.

Investigators believe he may have ties to Massachusetts and Florida. Anyone who may have information about who "Stanhope" is urged to contact to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office at 541.265.4277.



THE HOLMES & WATSON REPORT

Sherlock Peoria, Edited by Brad Keefauver, BSI



From 1997 to 2005, Sherlock Peoria issued a bi-monthly periodical, the Holmes and Watson Report, which provided great information on all things Sherlockian.

Edited by Brad Keefauver, the publication brought together several Sherlockians to opine on various topics. In each issue, there was at least one article under the category, Sherlockian Scholarship.

Brad has graciously allowed us to reprint these articles in our newsletters for those who do not own the hard copies of the Holmes and Watson Report.

THE EMPTY LAB

By Mel Hughes, Holmes & Watson Report, March, 1997

At this place New Year's Day, 1881 were spoken these deathless words "You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive" by Mr. Sherlock Holmes in greeting to John H. Watson, MD at their first meeting



This plaque can be found today on the wall of the pathology lab of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. I know. I've seen it.

First I had to get past two security guards who'd never heard of it, and who were convinced that I was an inexperienced Russian spy who couldn't come up with a better story than that.

Then I had to locate someone who knew where it was. And finally I had to interrupt the lunch of the very patient but not terribly amiable Dr. Norton, in whose office the plaque resides.

Norton claims that few people make the pilgrimage nowadays, that most of his Holmesian visitors are Japanese tourists who are dismayed and disappointed that London is not the mystical, hansom-laden city of which they have read.

But I've been to Mecca and have seen the holy shrine, and even have a slightly blurred photograph to prove it. If the plaque is to be believed, it was placed there in 1953 by the Baker Street Irregulars and the Amateur Mendicants.

Now why, you may ask, would I say such a terrible and blasphemous thing as "if the plaque is to be believed?"

I say this because I am convinced that the plaque is wrong on at least one other noteworthy count. Why do we believe the first meeting of Holmes and Watson to be on January 1?

Tradition says so, you answer. Granted, it was believed by many great Sherlockians of the past: Christopher Morley and Michael Hardwick, to mention two. And yet what evidence is there?

About as much as there is for believing Christ's birth to have occurred on December 25th - none. December 25 was originally a midwinter worship of Saturn and Bacchus.



When Constantine, in the fourth century, legalized Christianity, he also made it mandatory. The church in Rome made a "pact with the pagans" when it settled on December 25th to observe the Nativity- and in exchange for this date's name change, people were allowed to celebrate the holiday pretty much as they always had.

Most of the trappings of Christmas, from the mistletoe to the Yule log to the Christmas tree, are pagan in origin. In fact, it was not until the Victorian era that Christmas started gaining popularity as a true "Christian" celebration.

Fine, but what does that have to do with Holmes? It only serves to demonstrate that traditions are frequently without solid footing.

I can think of very few reasons for giving the New Year's Day holiday as THE GREAT MEETING day. I believe the one that's most often foisted upon us is the absence of other students in the pathology lab. But that's pretty weak stuff to me.

Watson makes no mention of the holiday. The city is bustling with activity, unlike most holidays when only a few brave souls are out and about.

Nothing is closed, from the pubs to the restaurants. If it were truly New Year's Day, wouldn't most of the pub crowd (to include the pub owners) be at home nursing their sleep deprivation and hangovers from the festivities of the night before?



Furthermore, there is considerable evidence for the lab to have been occupied just prior to the arrival of Stamford and Watson. Let's consider the account Watson lays out for us:

"This was a lofty chamber, lined and littered with countless bottles. Broad, low tables were scattered about, which bristled with retorts, test-tubes, and little Bunsen lamps, with their flickering blue flames..."



There were several tables scattered throughout that room, and each table was BRISTLING with retorts, test-tubes, and Bunsen burners -- burners which had been lit and were all running,

with flickering blue flames.

Holmes may have been a genius, but even he couldn't be in two places at once, and lit Bunsen burners need monitoring.

Besides, his experiment involved only a few chemicals, or it did as he demonstrated it to Watson and Stamford.

I believe this was a normal school day, and in fact not 15 minutes before the arrival of Watson and Stamford, that lab had been full of students and a beehive of activity.

Remember Stamford's hesitation about describing Holmes.

Watson had to urge him to not be "mealy-mouthed" about it, and Stamford admits under questioning that Holmes is "a little queer in some of his ideas," and was given to weird experiments that sometimes involved violence, such as beating corpses with a stick.

Surely Stamford wasn't the only one who knew of Holmes's odd nature. In fact, by his own admission, Holmes

had no friends in college, and if we take Stamford at his word, Holmes had been unable to find a roommate before Watson arrived.

"He was bemoaning himself ... because he could not get someone to go halves with him in some nice rooms which he had found." Watson describes the rooms later as being "desirable in every way," and the financial terms "so moderate when divided between us" that arrangements were concluded on the spot.

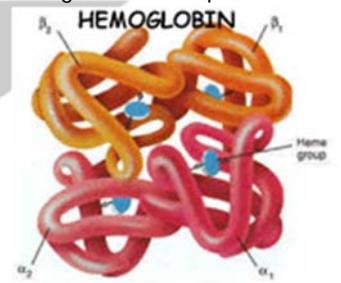
So no one had an objection to the rooms.

Their objection was to Holmes as a roommate, and this was only gotten around because Watson moved in without knowing Holmes at all.

But getting back to my theory, I believe that the room had been fully occupied just a few minutes before Watson's arrival. So what happened to empty it out so fast?

Sherlock Holmes -- "a little queer," the fellow who'd stop at nothing to learn the effects of the latest vegetable alkaloid, the guy who'd beat up dead people on a whim, Sherlock "a little too scientific for my taste."

Holmes, who approached cold-bloodedness with his passion for definite and exact knowledge -- looked up, quivering with excitement from his own table, and proclaimed in his strident voice, "I need a volunteer blood donor for my haemoglobin experiment!"



Presto. Empty lab.