

The Bilge Pump

Vol. 03, No. 8 - August, 2015
*The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the
Barque Lone Star*



From the Editors: A compilation of various topics for you this month.
our Jack Brazos.

Attached to this newsletter is the start of a new Pastiche by
Don, Steve, & Walt

September 6th, 2015 Meeting

The next meeting will be held on
Sunday, September 6th, at LA MADELEINE
COUNTRY FRENCH CAFE, in Addison.

The restaurant is at 5290 Belt Line Rd
#112, just east of the Tollway.

We will be starting The Hound of the
Baskervilles. We will cover chapters #5-
10 for this month.

The quiz will cover chapters #5-10.

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

August 2nd 2015 Meeting

19 crew members participated in the August, 2015 cruise.

The opening toast, in honor of the Hound of the Baskervilles, was
wonderfully done by Don, BSI (see page 2).

The quiz, which covered the first four chapters of the Hound of the
Baskervilles, was won by Allen, with 9 out of 10 questions correctly
answered. He received The Childhood of Sherlock Holmes: The Butler's
Tale by Mona Morstein.

Pam Mason became the 10th Crew Member to be invested as a full crew
mate.

Steve provided a presentation on Sherlock Holmes' Birthday, and the
various dates offered up by various Sherlockians as alternate dates.

We conducted a detailed discussion on the upcoming symposium we
are conducting (Saturday, November 7), entitled "Sherlock Holmes in
Popular Culture." (see page 3 for the tentative agenda)

Don reminded everyone that The Wild Detectives bookstore in Oak Cliff
will be hosting Lindsay Faye this coming October.

Steve conducted the final reading from the Baker Street Journal,
concerning Mrs. Hudson (see page 2).

Thanks to Brenda for taking the minutes of the cruise.

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

You can follow us on Twitter at: @barquelonestar

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



Who dunnit:



Third Mate
Helmsman
Spiritual Advisors

Secretaries

Historian
Webmaster

Steve Mason
Walter Pieper
Don Hobbs, BSI
Jim Webb
Cindy Brown
Brenda Hutchison
Pam Mason
Rusty Mason

mason.steve@epa.gov
waltpieper@att.net
221b@verizon.net
jimrwebb@ix.netcom.com
myrkrid08@yahoo.com

"Toast to the Hound of the Baskervilles"

Don, BSI

When I was asked to toast *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, I had many thoughts *Springer* to mind. In order to cover the whole *en-Chihuahua*, I knew it would be a *Mastiff* task.

It needed to be a *Labrador* of love. I needed to concentrate and not become too *melon-Collie*. I wrote many drafts, but seemed always to be *barking up the wrong tree*, so they ended up as *Poodles of paper on the floor*. Boy did I leave a *mess on the carpet*.

I seemed to always be *chasing my tail*. In one, I wrote about Sigerson, that *Great Dane* explorer, but it was *littered* with flaws, especially since he was Swedish, and not in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

I *spayed* that idea.

Well, *Iams* what I am. Then my friend, Uwe, a *German, Shepherd* in the idea I should mention Dartmoor; he thinks it is a good *Dalmatian*. I reminded him it was close to *Chow Chow* time.

He suggested we must not *Terrier*, because he was so hungry he could *Akita* a dozen *Weenie* dogs in one *Setter*. I thought a *Boxer* lunch would be quicker, and he agreed to sit and stay while I *fetch*ed lunch.

Uwe works as an editor and is a *Golden, Retriever* of facts; and better at *digging up* data than *scratching out* details. He always communicates well and is never a *Malamute*.

He certainly never *bites the hand that feeds him*. There is no *Weimaraner*, or reason why he is such a *loyal* friend, and helped me greatly with this toast.

I *doggedly* tried to be clever, but never get straight to the *Pointer*.

So, along I did *Pug*, it was a *Husky* task, but one I managed. I finally came up with an idea; I had to *Whippet* out, when it hit me right on the *Schnauzer*.

I would offer a simple toast, right to the *Pinscher*, so raise your glasses to that infamous canine – *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

"To Mrs. Hudson"

Baker Street Journal – October, 1957

We do not know who lodged in the prestigious rooms in Baker Street prior to that bright day in 1881 when Sherlock Holmes, with Dr. Watson close upon his heels, moved in.

It was some middle-aged couple of sedentary habit, perhaps, or another pair of bachelors whose respectability and decorum left nothing to be desired.

Or it may have been the widow and orphan of some retired general, or the retired general himself, or even a general who had not retired.

Whoever it was, we can be sure that the landlady of the establishment, who is known to us only as Mrs. Hudson, was not greatly moved by their presence under her roof.

This estimable woman came closer than anyone else, save only Dr. Watson, to sharing the life and living of Sherlock Holmes.

She did it from below-stairs, of course, but what a privilege it was and how she must have reveled in it!

For she bore without demur the clamor and the stench that filled her house; the revolver practice and the irregular meal-hours and the comings and goings of all sorts of strange characters.

She did not complain, as far as the record tells, even when her house was set afire, and she risked exposure to the black Formosa corruption and an air-gun bullet with equal courage.

She was – and Holmes and Watson knew it – a pearl among women.

We do not know a modicum of what we would like to know about this remarkable lady, whose life, for so many years, was intimately intertwined with the lives of her famous lodgers.

But one thing we do know, despite Dr. Watson's reporting to the contrary: it was – it must have been – Mrs. Hudson herself, and no lesser person, who to Sherlock Holmes was always the woman.

November 7th Symposium – Sherlock Holmes in Popular Culture – Agenda

Agenda template

9:00 – 9:10	Opening (announcements)	
9:10 – 9:30	Topic 1 -- Conan Doyle Life	Cindy Brown
9:30 – 10:00	Topic 2 – The Hound of the Baskervilles	Don Hobbs
10:00 – 10:15	Break (view displays / show video)	
10:15 – 10:45	Topic 3 -- It Was a Dark and Stormy Night: Resources and Tips for the Pastiche Writer	Colleen O'Connor
10:45 – 11:15	Topic 4 – The Games of Sherlock Holmes	Tim Kline
11:15 – 12:45	Lunch (view displays / show video)	
12:45 – 1:00	Topic 5 – Radio Plays of Sherlock Holmes	Dean Clark
1:00 – 1:45	Topic 6 – Irene Adler in the Modern Times	Carole Nelson Douglas
1:45 – 2:00	Break (view displays / show video)	
2:00 – 2:45	Topic 7 -- "The Rise of the Sherlockian Fangirl: Myths and Realities in the BBC Sherlock Online Community" / A Three Patch Problem: Reinterpreting the Canon In the Modern Era	Sandra Little
2:45 – 3:00	Topic 8 – Sherlock Holmes Societies in America	Stu Nelan
3:00	Closing	

The Origins of Scotland Yard

Liese Sherwood-Fabre

From the first Sherlock Holmes mystery, *A Study in Scarlet*, Scotland Yard plays a prominent role. By the time Dr. Watson takes up residence with Holmes, the consulting detective is already known to the inspectors and is shortly called out on a murder case because, as Inspector Gregson admits, "It's a queer case..., and I knew your taste for such things." (1)

For many around the world, the name "Scotland Yard" is synonymous with the whole of British law enforcement. Despite having a more limited scope, the force that once occupied a house in front of Great Scotland Yard represented a major step forward in the professionalization of London's police force.

In 1748 Henry Fielding, a Justice of the Peace in Bow Street, hired six honest, retired parish constables and created the "Bow Street Runners" to investigate crimes and arrest suspects. (2) This salaried detective force was the first of its kind and remains as one of his major accomplishments. The Bow Street Runners were

considered so effective, Parliament established seven additional police offices based on Fielding's model in 1792.

The police system, however, remained quite fragmented until the Act of 1829 consolidated a number of different patrols and forces into a single Metropolitan Police Force for the London area outside the City itself. Robert Peel oversaw the organization of the new entity along with two other commissioners. (3) The officers came to be known as "Bobbies" or "Peelers" (from the commissioner's name), and their offices were housed at 4 Whitehall Place. The public entrance for the station was actually in the back and opened onto an area called the "Great Scotland Yard." Over time, the area and the detective force became synonymous, and even when the force moved out of the building, the name followed them to "New Scotland Yard." (4)

The "Scotland" of "Scotland Yard" appears to have its origins prior to the 1500s when an English King provided land to a Scottish King to build lodgings for use

when visiting London. "Hostilities" between the two prevented any construction, but the land was used as an encampment by Scottish contingencies until the two countries were united under the British monarchy. (5) The street running to the side of this yard came to be known as "Great Scotland Yard," and was attached to the police force three hundred years later. (6)

While "Scotland Yard" elicits any number of images, from the sometimes contentious relationship between its detectives and Sherlock Holmes to a modern and efficient police force, it played a pivotal role in British efforts to protect its businesses and citizens. Inspectors Gregson and Lestrade and another nineteen detectives who appeared in the Sherlock Holmes series (7) can all be proud of that heritage.



By Liese Sherwood-Fabre, PhD. You can read more about this award-winning author's writing (as well as her previous articles in **the Bilge Pump**) and sign up for her newsletter at www.liesesherwoodfabre.com. A non-Sherlockian adventure can be downloaded at: <http://www.liesesherwoodfabre.com/extras.html>

- (1) Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* (London: Simon & Schuster UK Ltd., 2012), Kindle Location 734.
- (2) J.J. Tobias, *Crime and Police in England, 1700-1900*. (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1979), 44.
- (3) *Ibid*, page 79
- (4) *Ibid* page 82
- (5) <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vol16/pt1/pp194-196>
- (6) http://www.historybytheyard.co.uk/scotland_yard.htm
- (7) Steven Doyle and David Crowder, *Sherlock Holmes for Dummies*. (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Publishing), 107.

"The Irene Myth and the Maudie Possibility"

BY Brad Keefauver

"To Sherlock Holmes she is always the woman."

It's the first line of the very first Holmes short story. It's one of the most quoted lines in the Canon. And it also has a disclaimer that people tend to forget:

"It was not that he felt any emotion akin to love for Irene Adler." Think about that phrase for a moment ... akin to love. It covers quite a bit of ground. Within love's family tree, we find love, lust, infatuation, fondness, caring, desire, passion, and admiration for a well-rounded figure. But Watson tells us, quite plainly, that Sherlock Holmes felt none of these things for Irene Adler.

Yet thanks to the title of "the woman," which Watson mentioned first and more prominently, Irene Adler has come to be seen by Sherlockians as the on true love of Sherlock Holmes's life, his ideal mate, and everything else but mother to him. The disclaimer that comes a few lines later is blissfully ignored, and Holmes is saddled with a relationship that is every bit as false as saying he and Watson were lovers. The simple truth, when viewed objectively, is that the title was simply bestowed because Irene was the only woman in the 1880s to best the detective.

"I have been beaten four times - three times by men, and once by a woman," Holmes would say in another case, and it becomes obvious that when Holmes says "the woman" he isn't setting her apart from other women - he's setting her apart from his other opponents. Late Victorian sexist that he is, Holmes found Irene's outfoxing him rather irritating.

Yet the romantics out there can't have an eligible bachelor walking around without some female connection, so Irene, of questionable background and ineligible marital status, was chosen as Holmes's best possible love interest. The title "the woman" suddenly left the field of notable opponents and moved into the realm of the courting parlor and the bedroom. Mild irritation was now seen as whole-souled longing.

Yet the choice is entirely arbitrary. Other women in the Canon had their moments with Holmes that could be perceived through rose-colored glasses... Violet Hunter and Helen Stoner to name two (and if you look for articles with my by-line in the current issue of The Shoso-In Bulletin or Calabash Press's volume on "The

Speckled Band," you will find more detailed speculations on those two candidates).

And actually, if one looks across the whole Canonical field, searching for a love interest for Sherlock Holmes, Irene Adler is actually one of the worst possible choices.

Holmes encounters Adler through her goofy ex-boyfriend, the King of Bohemia, a man for whom Holmes has nothing but disdain. She is immediately described to Holmes as an "adventuress," which was just a nicer way of saying "a woman of easy virtue." (One of my correspondents would go so far as to say "prostitute," but I don't want The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes deciding a lynching would be as much fun as a banquet for their next outing.) By the time Holmes knew enough of Irene to see her as something other than one of the King's love-toys, however, she was Mrs. Godfrey Norton, respectable married woman.

There's really no room there for Sherlock Holmes seeing her as a love interest. And if you review the Canon, you'll also find that the 1880s was the time period in which Holmes had the least regard for women that he would have throughout his entire life. It was the decade of "Women are never to be entirely trusted - not the best of them," and other anti-female remarks.

Later in his life, Holmes would mellow toward the fair sex, but at the time of "A Scandal in Bohemia," he really wanted nothing at all to do with them.

Irene Norton's role as a love interest in the life of Sherlock Holmes must be seen, ultimately, as a myth to the cold, hard eyes of the objective observer.

Yet the title of "the woman," taken from a romantic point of view, has become an entrenched Sherlockian tradition in the last fifty years. Dumping Irene leaves a void that needs filling. And as I've said, the Canon is full of likely candidates.

The problem with most Canonical candidates is that Sherlock Holmes needs time to have a relationship. He can't be spending time with Violet Hunter when we know he was busy moving from case to case, still wrapped up in his career, in the time just after he met her. The only intervals in which he had time for any kind of relationship were while on hiatus or after his retirement.

**IRENE ADLER VERSUS MAUD BELLAMY
THE CHAMP AGAINST THE LATE-ENTRY CHALLENGER
IN THE BATTLES FOR THE MASTER'S AFFECTIONS**

<u>Irene</u>	<u>Maudie</u>
<p>Watson reports on her lasting impression on Holmes:</p> <p><i>"And yet there was but one woman to him, and that woman was the late Irene Adler, of dubious and questionable memory."</i></p> <p>Holmes on her place in society:</p> <p><i>"From what I have seen of the lady she seems indeed to be on a very different level to your Majesty."</i></p> <p>Irene reacts:</p> <p><i>"We both thought the best resource was flight, when pursued by so formidable an antagonist; so you will find the nest empty when you call tomorrow."</i></p> <p>Holmes on her looks:</p> <p><i>"I only caught a glimpse of her at the moment, but she was a lovely woman, with a face that a man might die for."</i></p>	<p>Holmes reports on her lasting impression on Holmes:</p> <p><i>"Maud Bellamy will always remain in my memory as a most complete and remarkable woman."</i></p> <p>Holmes on her place in society:</p> <p><i>"There was no gainsaying that she would have graced any assembly in the world."</i></p> <p>Maud reacts:</p> <p><i>"Bring them to justice, Mr. Holmes. You have my sympathy and my help, whoever they may be."</i></p> <p>Holmes on her looks:</p> <p><i>"I could not look upon her perfect clear-cut face, with all the soft freshness of the downlands in her delicate colouring, without realizing that no young man would cross her path unscathed."</i></p>

The former alternative seems just a bit rushed. Holmes was traveling through some very unlikely spots for romance during the Great Hiatus, and he still had too many traces of the younger, 1880s Holmes in his personality. The latter, after retirement, offers a much more logical field for dallying in affection.

Holmes was relaxing at that point, not on the run from Moriarty's assassins or hiding out. He was older, and had mellowed considerably in his attitudes toward women. He was also at that mid-life crisis time of his life when he was probably beginning to look back on all that he had not done with a few regrets. So let's look to Holmes's retirement.

Let's look to "The Lion's Mane."

Enter Maud Bellamy. "Maudie" to her boyfriends.

"There was no gainsaying that she would have graced any assembly in the world. Who could have imagined that so rare a flower would grow from such a root and in such an atmosphere? Women have seldom been an attraction to me, for my brain has always governed my heart, but I could not look upon her perfect clear-cut face, with all the soft freshness of the

downlands in her delicate colouring, without realizing that no young man would cross her path unscathed. Such was the girl who had pushed open the door..."

And that's Sherlock Holmes talking. The man to whom emotion was once an abhorrent thing, an interference in the logical workings of the detective mind. Even Dr. Watson at the height of his ardor for Mary Morstan never described a woman so lovingly. Can there be any doubt that this girl stirred something in Holmes?

True, he does qualify the final part of his statement with the phrase "no young man would cross her path unscathed." But he's just met her, and like Watson meeting Mary Morstan, is showing signs of self-doubt.

"What was I, an army surgeon with a weak leg and a weaker banking account, that I should dare to think of such things?" Watson mused on his chances with Mary Morstan, shortly after meeting her. And with an older Holmes, his first reaction was probably much the same. It would probably take some obvious attentions from the lady herself to convince him that a relationship was

even possible. And what do we find during his first interview with her?

"It seems that she ready knew me by sight, for she turned to me at the end." They had never met, yet Miss Bellamy was well aware of what the local celebrity looked like. He has plainly had her attention for some time. Exposing the killer of her fiance undoubtedly made this charming older man all the more attractive to her eyes.

And unlike Irene Adler, Maud Bellamy is currently unattached when Holmes meets her.

Her fiance is dead, and the most conspicuous rival for her affections is a bit of a dull fellow who helped get her notes to the guy she really liked. Women never go for those sorts, even after their fiance dies. The well-known man of the world, intelligent and financially comfortable, is more the type of fellow to attract the

local beauty. Much like the modern liaisons of rock stars and models, a relationship between the belle of Sussex and the superstar consulting detective seems almost like the fulfillment of a natural law.

But Maud Bellamy isn't just some good-looking bimbo.

"She possessed strong character as well as great beauty," Holmes tells us. She's "as good as her word" and "defiant" of those who would stand in the way of truth. Could Holmes have made a better choice?

A certain modern mystery writer has tried to set the retired Holmes up with a non-canonical boyish bookworm who seems even younger than dear Maudie. And while this might be nice wish fulfillment for boyish bookworm female mystery fans, it certainly doesn't have the solid ring of a relationship with a Canonical female that Holmes was plainly attracted to.

A Basic Holmes/Love Chronology

Holmes discourses on love, 1888:

"Love is an emotional thing, and whatever is emotional is opposed to that true, cold reason which I place above all things."

Holmes starts to think about it, 1897:

"I have never loved, Watson, but if I did..."

Holmes finally gives in 1907:

"Women have seldom been an attraction to me, for my brain has always governed my heart, but..."

The Sussex days were a prime time for Holmes to fall in love. Throwing in an extra-Canonical character as his object of interest is, however, completely unnecessary.

We've already got the perfect love interest for Holmes.

And it's not Irene Adler.

With the new millennium coming on, it's time to re-evaluate certain Sherlockian traditions. Keeping old married Irene in the role of Holmes's main squeeze is one that has been gathering mold for some time now. Let's give the poor guy a break in the next century and let him be linked with someone "with all the soft freshness of the downlands" instead an old adventuress who's been around the block far too many times. How do we do this?

Instead of toasting "the woman," drink a toast to "the real woman" whenever the occasion arises. Drop

the phrase "a most complete and remarkable woman" as needed. Remind your friends that Maud Bellamy didn't need to dress up like a boy and follow men home in the course of her relationships.

In the end, a Holmes/Bellamy relationship will be healthier for the worlds of Sherlockian scholarship and pastichery. Fewer holes will need to be plugged trying to dredge up evidence. Fewer scandals and dirty little secrets will have to be uncovered about this new Sherlockian first lady. And in that great free area of Holmes's retirement (pre- and post-war), there is room for pasticheurs to work without messing with the Canon as we know it.

And that says nothing of the benefits for Sherlock Holmes himself. For Maud Bellamy truly was "the real woman."

Accept no substitutes.

Baker Street Elementary

Created by Joe Fay,
Rusty & Steve Mason



Baker Street Elementary Fay, Mason, & Mason

I read an interesting article last night in *The Times* concerning education and schools.

A black and white illustration of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson sitting at a table. Sherlock is on the left, wearing his iconic deerstalker hat and looking thoughtful. John is on the right, wearing a bowler hat and gesturing with his hand while speaking. The table in front of them has a brick wall pattern on the left side and some small items on the right.

The article said smaller class sizes in our schools would be better for learning.

A black and white illustration of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson sitting at a table, similar to the previous panel. Sherlock is on the left, looking at John. John is on the right, gesturing with his hand. The table has a brick wall pattern on the left and some small items on the right.

Using that logic, if we all stayed home, our whole class would become smarter.

A black and white illustration of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson sitting at a table. Sherlock is on the left, looking at John. John is on the right, looking thoughtful. The table has a brick wall pattern on the left and some small items on the right.



From the July 23, 1905 Los Angeles Herald

The Mystery of the Runaway King

"Ah," said Sherlock Holmes, as he clambered down the mountain. "Here are five clues which will tell us about the runaway monarch. There is one clue that tells me that he is in plain sight from here."

"Oh, how do you tell that?" asked the girl.

"A very simple deduction," said Holmes. "You see the ruler is in plain sight, and there, sure enough, is the king himself."

"What else can you tell?" asked the girl, studying the clues.

"I see by the other clues that the king was at military maneuvers when he ran away. I see in what place the military maneuvers took place. I see how he tried to get away. I also see a clue which suggests to me what the game was which he so much preferred to military maneuvers that he ran away to play it."

See if you can find all of these clues.