Nominations are open for 2027 Susan Rice Mentorship Award (the deadline is Nov. 13). The winner will be announced during the birthday festivities in New York in January, and you'll find an excellent post about the award at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast <www.tinyurl.com/5xhd5twe>.

Bob Hess has reported that the Potter & Potter "Autumn Chills: Fine Horror and Mystery Literature" auction on Nov. 12 <www.tinyurl.com/ccazcw9v> will feature many nice Sherlockian and Doylean items from his collection.

Sir John Mills, who played Watson (with Peter Cushing as Holmes) in "The Masks of Death" (1984) and would have appeared in the sequel "The Abbot's Cry" (if it had been made), lived for a while at Sussex Hill Farm, which is now for sale (for £3,950,000). The report at the Country Life web-site (Sept. 24) <www.tinyurl.com/y5e99tdt> offers some nice stories about Mills and his career.

Intense research on "The Sign of the Four" might well involve consulting the Geological Society's Memoir No. 47: *The Andaman-Nicobar Accretionary Ridge: Geology, Tectonics and Hazards,* edited by P. C. Bandopadhyay and A. Carter (2017; 237 pp., £100) <www.tinyurl.com/yku53p4e>.

Further to the report on the new microdrama "Moriarty Rising: A Sherlock Holmes Tale" (Sep 26 #7), there's a trailer at <www.vimeo.com/1228562695>.

The four episodes of "The Final Problem" mini-series debuted on Netflix on Sept. 25 (Jul 26 #3), offering an excellent dramatization of Arturo Perez-Reverte's novel, which stars Benjamin Basil, "a washed-up actor who once played the most famous detective of all time on the silver screen." You can (and may want to) binge the three hours of the mini-series, and if you have not yet read the book you ought to watch the mini-series first, since the twists and turns of the story are thoroughly entertaining.

Those who fondly remember the BBC "Sherlock" television series (with Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman) will be glad to hear that Charles Augustus Magnussen is in the news again, in an AI video discovered by Jennie Paton <www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yusGZPMPZ4>.

Giordano Giorgi has reported an interesting sculpture showing Filippo Doria Pamphilj <www.tinyurl.com/ytfveha3>. You can visit it at the Palazzo Doria Pamphilj on the Vida del Corso in Rome, and perhaps recall someone else whose bust once was seen in a window in Baker Street.

Black Cat Weekly is an e-zine <www.blackcatweekly.com> edited by John Betancourt and published by the Wildside Press. The e-zine casts a wide net, and issue 265 offers Paul Metcalfe's traditional Sherlockian pastiche "The Photographs of the Future". He also has written a collection *The Case of the Australian Atlases and Other Sherlock Holmes Adventures* (2025), and a novel *Black and Deep Desires* (2026), both available from MX Publishing at <www.mxpublishing.com>. His new collection *Aurora Jones, Private Detective: Her First Cases* will be published at the end of this month.

Oct 26 #2 Sherlock & Co., the podcast that retells the Canon as modern true-crimes, performed "The Dead Man's Hand" at the South Bank Centre in London twice, on Sept. 5 and 6. Written by Joel Emery, the podcast features Harry Attwell as Holmes and Paul Waggott as Watson; Waggott, who lives in New Zealand, flew to London for the performances. A recording is available at Patreon <www.tinyurl.com/3hxxdw9u>; you will need to subscribe to hear more than the first few minutes, or wait hopefully for the entire production to show up on other apps and the podcast's YouTube channel.

Matt Wingett, who has written often about Conan Doyle and Portsmouth (Apr 21 #5) appears in an interesting five-minute video tour at the Portsmouth News web-site <www.youtube.com/watch?v=alvMgRlJiwE>, kindly noted by Jennie Paton.

Jennie Paton has reported a post to the web-site of TheGameExtras on Oct. 8 <www.thegameextras.com/series/sherlock-holmes> that lists (and reviews) 55 Sherlockian computer games, in chronological order, from 1984 to 2026 (and recommends that they be played in that order). One does wonder how many hours it would take to play all of them only once.

Sherlock Holmes is not neglected in academia. Tom Tanaka has reported an interesting article in the James Madison Undergraduate Research Journal in 2014 by Cassandra Poole on "'The Woman' and the Women of Sherlock Holmes" (with attractive artwork by Viven Wu) <www.tinyurl.com/ycx2cn26>.

"Sherlock Holmes, But Make It Rom-Com" was the headline on a story in the Hollywood Reporter (Oct. 6) <www.tinyurl.com/3ydmm4fz> about plans for a Roku Channel series "Scarlett Holmes" that will star Lucy Hale as a descendant of Sherlock Holmes who, with her sidekick Jane Watson, will "take on mysteries of love, dating, and relationships." It is scheduled on Roku next year.

The Martin Gardner Bibliography, by Dana Richards (Stanford: CSLI Publications, 2023; 448 pp., $37.60), is in many ways a biography of a poly-math who was a good friend of John Bennett Shaw, and who did not neglect Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle in his many articles and books.

A nice run of the first 50 volumes of The Strand Magazine (1891-1916), in the publisher's blue cloth binding, was offered at Forum Auctions in London on Oct. 8 <www.tinyurl.com/yxrtmrhj>, estimated at £400-£600; it sold for £650 (plus the buyer's premium) (and plus shipping, unless the fortunate buyer was willing to carry those 50 volumes home).

Pj Doyle ("Ettie Shafter") died on Oct. 2. She was a long-time volunteer with the American Red Cross, served as managing director and on the board of the Mixed Blood Theater, and was an enthusiastic member of the Norwegian Explorers. She co-edited the anthology The *Baker Street Dozen: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Thirteen Favorite Sherlock Holmes Stories, Each Accompanied by an Essay by a Prominent Sherlockian, Along with Various Interludes, Curiosities* & Miscellanea (1987), and received her Investiture from the Baker Street Irregulars in 2010.

Oct 26 #3 Harry Houdini died on Oct. 31, 1926, and the centenary of his death has been accompanied by the publication of Eric Colleary's *Houdini's Library: Inside the Spellbinding Collections of the Great Illusionist* (New York: Abbeville Press, 2026; 311 pp., $65.00). Colleary is the Cline Curator of Performing Arts at the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas in Austin, and its holdings include Houdini's personal papers and his library. The book is full of spectacular full-color illustrations, and the chapter on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle features images of his manuscript "Notes on Houdini", his annotated copy of Houdini's *A Magician Among the Spirts*, and other books given to Conan Doyle by Houdini.

October was the occasion for celebration of the centenary of "Winnie the Pooh" and the lasting impact of A. A. Milne and Ernest Shepard, and there was a fine article about their work at the Country Life web-site (Oct. 10) <www.tinyurl.com/mttjr6hr>.

The Country Life web-site also had a post about the artist and political satirist Ralph Steadman <www.tinyurl.com/ycmwdbam>, who illustrated Bernard Stone's *Inspector Mouse* (1980), showing the Inspector in Sherlockian costume (sorry, that artwork's not in the article).

Jim Davis' "Garfield" comic strip offered a nicely Sherlockian mention on Sept. 13 <www.gocomics.com/garfield/2026/09/13>.

October is the month in which Edgar Allan Poe died, in 1849, and Wanda Dow has kindly reported a post by Mark Hoffman to the Mental Floss web-site on Oct. 5 <www.tinyurl.com/375tczcp> about "The Edgar Allan Poe Character Who Helped Create Sherlock Holmes".

Thierry Saint-Joanis offered an interesting article about John Lennon and Sherlock Holmes in The Doyly Planet on Oct. 9, and you can read it on-line in the newsletter's archives <www.doyly-planet.com/archives.php>. By nice coincidence, a serigraph of Sherlockian artwork by Lennon was offered at the Lion and Unicorn Auction House in Hollywood, Fla., on Oct. 11, with an estimate of $800-$2,000 <www.tinyurl.com/yc83fhnv>; it sold for $850 (plus the 30% buyer's premium).

The "Classic Peanuts" comic strip has reprinted something nicely Sherlockian <www.gocomics.com/peanuts/2026/10/13>; it first ran on Oct. 16, 1979.

If you've not been to the Baker Street Irregulars restaurant at 1152 1st Avenue (at 63rd Street) in New York (Dec 23 #6), it's too late: it closed in July 2025 after they had trouble with patrons carrying drinks onto the street, and with noise, according to a neighborhood newsletter.

"My spearsman is foaming at the leash or straining at the pod, and since he is a Bantu and has worked for Conan Doyle, the deaths he inflicts are excruciatingly painful." F. Scott Fitzgerald, in a letter to Gilbert and Amanda Seldes, available at Heritage Auctions on Nov. 16 with an opening bid of $6,500 <www.tinyurl.com/3mjzsy9d>. They're trying again: the letter was offered earlier this year, with an opening bid of $6,000 (Feb 26 #5), but didn't sell.

Oct 26 #4 Essential Japan reported (Oct. 12) <www.tinyurl.com/yrp2kkmz> that the tenth anniversary of the "Moriarty the Patriot" manga will be celebrated with a major exhibition in Tokyo, Osaka, and Fukuoka. Conan Doyle's villain is now William James Moriarty, who campaigns against social inequality in Victorian Britain.

From 1979: a television commercial in which Sherlock (and others) happily recommend Pioneer Chicken <www.youtube.com/watch?v=dhnL5-oC5Fo>, reported by Howard Ostrom.

Jeffrey Archer died on Oct. 5, formerly the deputy chairman of the Conservative Party in Britain (he resigned after a newspaper caught him paying off a prostitute), became a life peer in 1992, and served half of a four-year prison term after a conviction for perjury. Archer also was a best-selling author, and in 1986 was reportedly hired by Steven Spielberg (or Paramount) to translate Chris Columbus' script for "Young Sherlock Holmes" into British (Nov 86 #4); apparently that wasn't necessary, since he was not included in the film's credits.

Simpson's in the Strand is mentioned in the Canon, but Rule's is well regarded, and even older (founded in 1798), and a grand place to dine. It made the news this month when the owner of the property donated it to the National Trust, which will preserve the building and continue to rent it to the restaurant <www.bbc.com/news/articles/c83vq95dq91go>.

Nigel Bruce's signed contract for "The New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" (sponsored by the Petri Wine), dated Apr. 10, 1945, was offered at RR Auction in Amherst, N.H., on Oct. 14, estimated at $400+, with a starting bid of $200 <www.tinyurl.com/5dzp9cz5>. It didn't sell. Bruce was paid $500 per episode. According to web-sites, a cup of coffee cost 10¢ back then, and $500 would be a bit more than $9,000 now. Not bad for a week's work.

The *Edinburgh Edition of Works of Arthur Conan Doyle* continues with a new volume, *The Land of Mist and Other Spiritualist Writings*, edited by Christine Ferguson (Edinburgh University Press, 2026; 330 pp., $165.00). It's a scholarly and entertaining examination of the novel in which Conan Doyle converted Professor Challenger into a belief in Spiritualism, with an insightful Introduction, a chapter that somehow was omitted from the novel, other articles about Spiritualism and the Supernatural, including the Cottingley fairies (and Elsie Wright's letter written in 1983, with her confession about what she calls ed "practical joke"). Recommended.

It appears that there is not (and never has been) a Sherlockian society in Poland, but nevertheless Sherlock Holmes is well known there. Alan Rettig has reported Igor Belov's article about "Sherlock Holmes in Poland" at the Culture.pi web-site <www.tinyurl.com/yh4bkd8v>.

"Type your idea and let AI create it," is an offer from DreaminaAI, which has a web-site at <www.draeamina.capcut.com>. It seems that the product is described as AI-native, and Jennie Paton has found an example on-line at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=QrtF_FdhMK0>. One does wonder just what the idea was, and what sort of program created the video.

Oct 26 #5 Bill Zachs, director of the Blackie House Library and Museum in Edinburgh, will speak on "'Through the Magic Door': Stories from the Private Library of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" on Nov. 2 at the University California Los Angeles. The lecture will be live-streamed on YouTube for remote viewing <www.1718.ucla.edu/events/through-the-magic-door> (there's no need to register for remote viewing).

Bill Seil has kindly noted an article in Variety (Oct. 8) on a new three-part series "Houdini: Back from the Dead" <www.tinyurl.com/4bb5n4th>; it's an AI-generated series, with no entry at the Internet Movie Data Base, and it may or may not include Conan Doyle. It's available on the Fox Nation subscription streaming service, and you can see how well they've done by watching the trailer at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Nsf3KcQIgg>.

If you'd like to hear what Houdini actually sounded like, Max Magee (who presides over the James Phillimore Society for Sherlockian magicians) recommends the "Wild About Harry" web-site <www.tinyurl.com/yx6me23m>. It's possible that we may be able to hear more of what Houdini said, some day <www.tinyurl.com/wf4syapc>; you should also click on the "update" link to read more about the recordings.

A bit more about Winnie-the-Pooh: Steve Hendrix reported in the Washington Post (Oct. 15) <www.tinyurl.com/5ctuwn9r> on the campaign to bring Christopher Robin Milne's stuffed bear back to Britain from the N.Y. Public Library. It's a delightful article, full of puns and whimsy; you can set up a (free) temporary account, or ask a subscriber to share it with you.

Dana Richards reports from New Zealand that there is no Māori translation of anything from the Canon. But there could be, and you're encouraged to vote for *A Study in Scarlet* <www.tinyurl.com/3p3h4a7n>.

Conan Doyle typescripts seem to be scarcer than Conan Doyle manuscripts, quite likely because collectors and libraries prefer manuscripts, but you can bid on a pair of non-Sherlockian typescripts with holographic corrections that are coming up at Freeman's Auctions in Chicago on Nov. 5, estimated at $800-$1,200 <www.tinyurl.com/24hrczz9>.

The Holy Land Mint (in Israel) offers a wide range of collectibles, among them a "Sherlock Beagle" colorized silver bar <www.tinyurl.com/3jwrwnm4>. Considering the price of silver (you can check on the Internet), you can decide whether it's worth investing.

Chaucer Auctions in Folkestone (Kent) will be offering a wide variety of Sherlockian and Doylean books in their "Vintage Books Auction" on Nov. 4 <www.chaucer.atgportals.net/auctions/9807/srchau11424>.

The British author Philip Pullman celebrated his 80th birthday on Oct. 19, and the Doyly Planet marked the occasion with a nice article about Pullman's connections with Sherlock Holmes and the Brigadier Gerard; it's online at <www.doyly-planet.com>. It's a delightful daily newsletter (Sep 26 #6), and you can see samples at the web-site (the archives are avail-able to subscribers).

Oct 26 #6 ***The Ultimate Sherlock Holmes Quiz Book: The Rathbone Years*****, by Euan Alan Baird and Barry Robertson (Planet Cool Books, 2026; 117 pp. $9.99), is a true test for those who believe they know everything about the Rathbone/Bruce films, with questions such as "what's the film in which Watson shoots at a suit of armor?" And for real trivia buffs, they have done the same for Clint Eastwood and John Wayne films, and the Fawlty Towers television series.**

This year's Christmas card from the Sherlock Holmes Society of London has an attractive illustration by Laurence Pernet, and you can order a packet at the Society's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/bdcwsx5k>.

The Conan Doyle family's tour of the United States in 1923 included a stop in Hollywood, and a visit to the set where "Long Live the King" was being filmed. Sir Arthur was photographed with Jackie Coogan, one of the actors in the film, and you can see them both at the Arthur Conan Doyle Encyclopedia <www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/wiki/Jackie_Coogan>.

Keith Watson's original artwork (watercolor and ink) for a page from "The Lost World" in Eagle Comics (apparently in 1954) was offered at Excaliber Auctions in Kings Langley on Oct. 24 <www.tinyurl.com/44rbux68>. It sold for £30. If you'd like to see artwork from some other comic-book adaptations of the novel, visit <www.gwthomas.org/the-lost-world-in-comics>.

"The Mitchell and Webb Look" was a 30-minute television series broadcast by BBC-2, starring David Mitchell and Robert Webb. Jennie Paton has found video of a skit from 2010 with Mitchell as Holmes and Webb as Watson, online at <www.tinyurl.com/5azc2vzm>.

Lyndsay Faye has posted about "The Brotherhood of Edgar Allan Poe, Shakespeare, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" to the CrimeReads web-site on Oct. 13, at <www.tinyurl.com/57hns542>.

The BBC has announced that its plan to save £500 million over the next two years will include closing the BBC Three and BBC Scotland television channels, which will continue on-line only, and BBC Radio 4 Extra, where listeners found comedy, drama, and documentaries in the BBC archive (much of the material will still be available on BBC Sounds, which already offers a lot of Sherlockian drama and readings).

Further to the item about the new television series "The Death of Sherlock Holmes" (May 26 #7), Rafe Spall, who plays Holmes, was interviewed at MIPCOM Cannes; you can read all about it (with some spoilers) at the Deadline web-site (Oct. 16) <www.tinyurl.com/2s493juy>.

A non-Sherlockian note for all members of the James Phillimore Society (as well as anyone interested in magic): there seems to be a new trend in presenting fine magic, with magicians telling stories about their lives while they perform. Nate Dendy did that earlier this year in his "Nothing Up My Sleeve", and Helder Guimarães is performing now in his "The Hope Theory" (at the New York City Center through Dec. 6). You can sample both of them at their web-sites and at YouTube.

Oct 26 #7 In plenty of time for holiday hinting (or shopping): Randall Stock's annual and informative nominations for the best Sherlock Holmes books, movies, DVDs, and much more, is now available on-line at <www.bestofsherlock.com/sherlock-gifts.htm>. You'll also find recommendations of older material, along with some helpful explanations of his choices. There's always much more of interest available at his web-site, including discussion of manuscripts, Beeton's Christmas Annual, and Sidney Paget; you can click on "Site index/Search" at the upper right to see what is available.

The world of Sherlockian societies continues to expand: we can now add the Illustrious Clientele, which meets at a restaurant in Taipei City in Taiwan. Jialing Liang <taipeisherlockians@gmail.com> is the contact for the first society ever in Taiwan.

"Lexipoddery: The OED Podcast" allows everyone to join Fiona McPherson and Craig Leyland, editors of the Oxford English Dictionary, in an exploration of "words, lexicography, and the history of the English language." Their podcast on Apr. 15 was titled "Digital Discussion, Sherlockian Sleuthing", and the second half (at 18:30) considered the impact that Conan Doyle has had on the OED <www.tinyurl.com/yar5sk2c>.

"Andrew Lloyd Webber Music Removed from Show Co-Written with Tim Rice" was the headline on a story in The Stage (Oct. 22) <www.tinyurl.com/mtyre23s>. The show is "Sherlock Holmes and the 12 Days of Christmas", which had its premiere at the Birmingham Rep on Nov. 14, 2025, and is scheduled to open at the Alexandra Palace in London on Nov. 26. The musical comedy, written by Humphrey Ker and David Reed (who play Holmes and Watson) had songs that were written by Webber and Rice. According to the story, Rice said that Webber's songs had been "ditched" because Webber had felt he had "more important things to do," while Webber said that the producers decided not to use his music. Rice is understood to be reworking the songs with composer Howard Goodall, and Webber was quoted as saying that he wished "the charming show every success," and that Howard Goodall "is a great composer and a really good choice to replace me." Scott Monty and Burt Wolder interviewed Ker and Reed at their "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast last year <www.tinyurl.com/bj45y5nx>, and there is a bit of video from the Birmingham production at YouTube, but no one has reported a recording of the entire show.

Chung-Ang University, in Seoul (South Korea), will host the 2027 AIIF (Advanced Imaging International Festival) on Nov. 11-13, with the theme, inspired by Conan Doyle's stories, "AI^ver.7.0: Dancing Signs", according to a story in the Asia Business Daily (Oct. 25) <www.tinyurl.com/2vn5f7dk>.

Stephen Fry had a nice article on how "Sherlock Holmes Altered the Course of My Whole Life" in the Guardian (Oct. 25) <www.tinyurl.com/mraahtcs>; it may be his introduction to a new anthology *Sherlock: Ten New Cases* that's due from Simon & Schuster in November. The book seems not to be available for pre-order other than audio from Amazon in the U.S., but you can wait a bit or order now from <www.amazon.co.uk> with no extra charge for shipping to the U.S.

Oct 26 #8 There's plenty of theatrical news, especially with Christmas on its way. Ken Ludwig's "Moriarty" is on at the Melbourne Civic Theatre in Melbourne, Fla., through Nov. 15 <www.mymct.org>.

Tony Burchell's one-man show "Lot No. 249" is touring in Britain through Dec. 19 <www.tinyurl.com/dpjy5b6u>.

Craig Sodaro's "Young Sherlock" will be produced at Rundle College Junior High in Calgary, AB, Nov. 6-7 <www.tinyurl.com/4mpd66ks>.

Tim Kelly's version of William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" is due at the Plaza Theatre in Wharton, Tex., Nov. 6-8 <www.whartonplazatheatre.org>.

"Holmes Sweet Homicide" (by Tony Schwartz and Marylou Ambrose) is coming up at the Saturday Club in Vacaville, Calif., Nov. 6-8; their web-site's at <www.gaslighterstheatrical.com>.

Brian Guehring's "Sherlock Holmes and the 1st Baker Street Irregular" will be performed at the Paradise Center for the Arts in Faribault, Minn., Nov. 13-15 <www.paradisecenterforthearts.org/theater>.

Mark Shanahan's "A Sherlock Carol" is scheduled at the Austin Playhouse in Austin, Tex., Nov. 13-Dec.20 <www.austinplayhouse.com>; and at the Wichita Theatre in Wichita Falls, Tex., Nov. 13-Dec. 19 <www.wichitatheatre.com>; and at the Wells Theatre in Norfolk, Va., Dec. 3-27 <www.vastage.org>. It also is due at the Westport Country Playhouse in Westport, Conn., Dec. 12-20 <www.westportplayhouse.org>; and the Nicolet College Theatre in Rhinelander, Wis., Dec. 3-12 <www.tinyurl.com/4pba2wtv>.

Michael Futcher's new "Sherlock Holmes – The Mystery of the Valkyrie" will be performed at the Queensland Performing Arts Center in South Brisbane, Qld., Nov. 14-29 <www.qpac.com.au>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot" will be performed at the Roswell Commnunity Little Theatre in Roswell, N.M., Nov. 20-29 <www.roswelltheatre.com>; it's also coming up at the Lake Worth Playhouse in Lake Worth, Fla., Nov. 26-Dec. 6 <www.lakeworthplayhouse.org>.

"Tiny Tim's Christmas Carol" (a non-Sherlockian play by Ken and Jack Ludwig) will be performed at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., from Nov. 27 to Dec. 13 <www.bakerstreetwest.com>. Anything by Ludwig will be fun.

Ed Kelly's new "Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Deception" will be performed at the Victoria Village Hall in Glossop, Derbs., Dec. 5-6; their Facebook page is at <www.tinyurl.com/ae2brve6>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Goose" by Michael Menendian and John Weagly) will be produced at the Ashes Theatre in Spring, Tex., on Dec. 11-20 <www.fromtheashestheatre.com>.

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