Using the Collections

Marilyn and Jeremy Hanson, members of The Society of the Naval Treaty, recently visited the Sherlock Holmes Collections. They were pleased to tour the Collections and meet curator Tim Johnson. 💫

Musings

Tim Johnson has certainly been busy. So busy, in fact, that we’ve decided to skip the normal 50 Years Ago column to make room for the extra photos and articles about the visitors to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. I don’t believe that there’s much competition between a 50 Years Ago Column and reading about a seven year old visitor to the Collections who can correctly identify an illustration as the one which accompanied “The Musgrave Ritual.”

Dick Serum has provided us with a look at a photograph published 100 Years Ago and a review of the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections, with Les Flanger as the featured speaker. PJ Doyle joins our list of writers and gives us information about the latest donation by David Hammer, who has been a good friend of the Holmes Collections. 💫

Remembrances

In supporting the Sherlock Holmes Collections, many donors have made contributions either in honor or in memory of special persons.

In Honor Of

In Memory Of

From

Charles Clifford
Bob Katz
Barbara McKuras
Don Yates
Stanton Berg
Jerry Margolin
Robert Hess
Robert Hess
Showwaku Mashimo
Andrew Malec
Dr. Paul and Carole Martin
Yuichi Hirayama
David Rush
Jack Key
Paul Singleton
Allen Devitt and Susan Diamond
Donald Price III

For any inquiries contact:
Timothy J Johnson, Curator
612-624-3552 or johnson76@tc.umn.edu

Sherlock Holmes Collections
Suite 111, Elmer L. Andersen Library
University of Minnesota
222 21st Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Telephone: 612-624-9186
FAX: 612-625-3525

Mailing list corrections requested—
Because of the high cost of returned newsletters, we would appreciate being informed of changes of address or other corrections.

Timothy J. Johnson, Curator

A Visit From St. Kate’s

By Tim Johnson

Over the course of a year we enjoy hosting any number of visits to the Collections. Some of these visits are connected with research or course work, but many others offer an opportunity to introduce visitors to the Collections for the first time. Such was the case with a visit from about thirty members of the College of Saint Catherine Alumnae Association Lifelong Learning program on Saturday, October 25th. “St. Kate’s” (as the College is locally known) was founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1905, and is one of the pre- eminent Catholic colleges educating women in the country. In addition to my work at the University of Minnesota, I am an adjunct faculty member in St. Kate’s graduate program in library and information science. So it was a special treat for me to welcome members of the St. Kate’s community to the Holmes Collections.

We began our morning together in the Givens Conference Suite with an overview of the Collections and a display of some of the notable items from the vault. One of the continuing mysteries to people unfamiliar with the history of the Collections is “why Minnesota?” How did the Collections come to be here and how have they continued to grow? This opening session answered those questions and allowed our guests to get an up-close look at many of these treasures. Many were thrilled to look at the first appearance of a Holmes story in the Bexton’s Christmas Annual or to see an original manuscript page from The Hound of the Baskervilles. Other items on display included a Peanuts cartoon panel from the Mackler Collection, radio scripts from the Meiser Collection, one of John Bennett Shaw’s notebooks on Holmes in the Theater, and some of our three-dimensional artifacts.

After everyone had a chance to view the items on display we continued on to the second part of the morning’s events, a tour of the underground caverns. Along the way we paused at the 221B Baker Street sign formerly on display at John Bennett Shaw’s house in Santa Fe and now near the front door of our suite. It was the perfect place to end the morning’s events. Future tours of the Collections will be announced in the Newsletter, and we encourage you to join us in the future.

Continued on page 6

8 Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections
John Bennett Shaw kept a clipping from Collier's magazine dated August 13, 1908 in one of his many scrapbooks. The caption for the photograph reads, "Conan Doyle and the late James Payn enjoying a tete-a-tete in Dr. Doyle's library." This photograph was interesting in that it also appeared in the recently published Arthur Conan Doyle: A Life in Letters by Jon Lellenberg. The Editorial has a paragraph that starts out, "A Friend. Well, here is old Sherlock once again, the ever-welcum Holmes." The poem, "Ballade of Baker Street" by Carolyn Wells (1862-1942) is on page 14 and a political cartoon from the Chicago Tribune by John T. McCutcheon (1870-1940) in four panels titled, "Sherlock Holmes Analyzes A Perfect Stranger" appears under a photograph of Conan Doyle in South Africa on page 21.

The feature of this Collier's is the three part article by Arthur Bartlett Maurice (1873-1946). The title of the series is, "Sherlock Holmes and His Creator; Conan Doyle's Ink-Splattered Childhood, His Literary and Outdoor Youth—Doctor and Author—Where He Met His Detective and How He Constructed Holmes." Part I is "Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: His Career and Personality" which has as its third photograph Conan Doyle and James Payn. Part II is "Concerning Mr. Sherlock Holmes: Where the Detective Idea Came From," and Part III continues with "Concerning Conan Doyle: As Literary Writer—Some Impressions of His Work."

James Payn isn’t mentioned in the text of the article, which does mention Andrew Lang. Another photograph shows Conan Doyle with Robert Barr and Robert McClure. Arthur Bartlett Maurice calls himself an ardent Sherlockian, and in discussing Conan Doyle’s knighthood he suggests that the author of The Hound of the Baskervilles deserves the rank of baron, for The Sign of Four the title of viscount, for A Study in Scarlet the title of earl, for Memoirs he would deserve a marquessate, and for The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes such a person ought to be a duke.

Arthur Bartlett Maurice was an American editor of several newspapers and The Bookman from 1899 onward, where he wrote the column "Chronicle and Comment." We know that Les Klinger and Susan Dahlinger have been working on a collection of Sherlockian writings that appeared in The Bookman.

James Payn (1830-1890) was a novelist and editor who first published Conan Doyle in 1879. Payn edited Chamber’s Journal starting in 1858 and moved from Edinburgh to London in 1861. He became a reader for Smith, Elder in 1874, a position he held for twenty years. In 1883 he succeeded Leslie Stephen as editor of Cornhill Magazine. He was known as a great supporter of rising young writers like Conan Doyle and Rider Haggard. Conan Doyle was working on a stage version of Payn’s 1870 novel Holmes when Payn died; it was finally staged in 1899 in Aberdeen and at the Garrick Theatre in London.

Photograph courtesy of The Sherlock Holmes Collections.
Our class and tour: the Allen Mackler and took a short walk over to Wilson we came back into the light of day After a circuit through the caverns, the long-term preservation and stor- and how its design and use promotes the opportunity to share many of the A tour through the caverns gives us tors for a journey down into the cav- photo, we continued down the stairs, To the Editor, 2008 issue of this newsletter: 100 Years Ago column in the March 1904… I know that Doug that building work could start in gale evening was of course for I have read the latest issue with Union Jack Club came into being Sveum to tell him that he and I I wrote back to Mary: “Dear Mary, Thank you for your note. Visits are possible, although weekend visits would require a special appointment as our office is not open on weekends (although the library is open for research use on Saturdays from 9am to 1pm). Our general hours are Monday- Friday, 8:30am to 4:30 pm. My best suggestion would be to schedule an appointment. With enough advance notice it would be possible to visit either on an evening or Saturday morning. Just send me a note with possible times and I’ll look at my cal- endar. You might want to suggest a number of dates. Thank you.” Mary wrote back with a number of dates and we settled on Saturday, November 22 at 10am. I sent her another e-mail with directions and map to the library, and on Saturday Mary’s son, Soren Eversoll, showed up with his father Jon Eversoll and grandfather Dan Gallagher. Soren was an immediate hit, as he had some dressed in his Holmes outfit. I had pulled some items from the Collections in advance and so we moved into one of the conference rooms to inspect these items. They included Vincent Starrett’s copy of the Beeton’s Christmas Annual, two vol- umes from the Cazarina’s library, an original manuscript page from the Hound, a bound copy of Edith Meiser’s scripts, one of John Bennett Shaw’s notebooks with photographs of Sherlockian actors, and other memorabilia. I got a hint, very early, of how sharp Soren was and how knowledgeable he was of the stories. I had barely opened a volume of the Strand when Soren exclaimed (having seen one of the Paget illustrations) “that’s from ‘The Musgrave Ritual’” (which, indeed, it was). I discovered that Soren’s grandfather had a copy of all the stories as they originally appeared in the Strand, and that this was Soren’s entry into the world of Holmes. From the conference room steps we stopped for a picture by Shaw’s 221B Baker Street sign and then trav- elled down to the caverns for a tour of the Collections. Soren was in his ele- ment. After our visit to the caverns we took a short walk over to Wilson Library to visit Allen Mackler’s re-creation of the sitting room at 221B. In the course of our visit I discovered that Soren’s grandfather was at the “U” the same time as my father, both graduating in 1954. That provided some additional and interesting conver- sation, much of it on the history and present performance of the University’s football team. Throughout the visit, Soren continued to tell me about Holmes. He was an amazing fount of information. About an hour and a half later our tour came to an end and Soren departed with his father and grandfa- ther. It was a great morning. Later, I received a note from Soren’s mother: “Soren will be sending you a note to thank you personally; however, I wanted to let you know how much my family enjoyed and appreciated the time they spent with you in the Sherlock Holmes library. Soren was in his glory and excitedly shared with me the photos and brochures from that event. Thank you again for accommodating us: We genuinely appreciate it.” It was a morning that memories are made of. Soren has an open invitation to return, whenever he would like.

Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections

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From the President

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections occurred on October 27, 2008. During the business meeting we learned that the E. W. McDiarmid Curator Endowment balance was $1.36 million thanks to a large anonymous donation. With the additional 80 pledges to the fund we have about fifty thousand dollars to go to reach the goal of 1.5 million. The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota became the first BSI Scion Society to become a member of the Sigerson Society with a donation presented by President Gary Thaden and Michael Eckman which topped the $10,000 requirement. Thanks to the Norwegian Explorers, who join John and Inez Bergquist, the Hubbs family, the late Allen Mackler, Mary McDiarmid, Mike and Julie McKuras, Tim Johnson and Dick Sveum as members of the Sigerson Society.

The officers and board of directors elected include: President Richard Sveum, Vice President John Bergquist, Secretary Michael Eckman, Treasurer Tim Johnson and Members-at-Large Phil Bergem, Mary McDiarmid, Mike McKuras, Steve Stilwell and Gary Thaden.

Jon Lellenberg was awarded the Bryce L. Crawford, Jr. Award for the best article in the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections Newsletter for his September 2008 article “50 Years Ago” about Elmer Davis, Timothy J. Johnson, Curator of Special Collections and Rare Books at the University of Minnesota, delivered the State of the Collections Address.

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A Visit From St. Kate's... Continued from Page 1

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Mrs. Doyle then noted that Andrew Lycett’s biography of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle had noted the correct date. We also received a note from Doug Wrigglesworth:

Dear Dick,

I read with interest your “100 Years Ago” column written for your latest newsletter (always an interesting read) and thought you might be interested in a related story.

In May of 2006 Mrs. Georgina Doyle hosted a party at the Victory Services Club to celebrate her 70th birthday. Attending were a number of family and friends, among whom Nancy and I were pleased to be included. Georgina wanted to illustrate somehow to the assembly that ACD was much more than Holmes, and she selected “The Grey Dress” as an example of his wit and skill in other literary areas.

She invited me to join her and we presented “The Grey Dress” to the party as a dialogue – to much applause!

The Victory Services Club (situated very near Marble Arch) recently celebrated its centenary as an institution, and the 50th anniversary of The Duke of Edinburgh as senior patron. The VSC was the club of Innes Doyle, Georgina’s grandfather Dan Gallagher. Soren was an immediate hit, as he had some dressed in his Holmes outfit. I had pulled some items from the Collections in advance and so we moved into one of the conference rooms to inspect these items. They included Vincent Starrett’s copy of the Bertin’s Christmas Annual, two volumes from the Czatina library, an original manuscript page from the Hound, a bound copy of Edith Meiser’s scripts, one of John Bennett Shaw’s notebooks with photographs of Sherlockian actors, and other memorabilia. I got a hint, very early, of how sharp Soren was and how knowledgeable he was of the stories. I had barely opened a volume of the Strand when Soren exclaimed (having seen one of the Paget illustrations) “that’s from ‘The Musgrave Ritual’” (which, indeed, it was). I discovered that Soren’s grandfather had a copy of all the stories as they originally appeared in the Strand, and that this was Soren’s entry into the world of Holmes. From the conference room we stopped for a picture by Shaw’s 221B Baker Street sign and then traveled down to the caverns for a tour of the Collections. Soren was in his element. After our visit to the caverns we took a short walk over to Wilson Library to visit Allen Mackler’s re-creation of the sitting room at 221B. In the course of our visit I discovered that Soren’s grandfather was at the “U” the same time as my father, both graduating in 1954. That provided some additional and interesting conversation, much of it on the history and present performance of the University’s football team. Throughout the visit, Soren continued to tell me about Holmes. He was an amazing fount of information.

About an hour and a half later our tour came to an end and Soren departed with his father and grandfather. It was a great morning. Later, I received a note from Soren’s mother: “Soren will be sending you a note to thank you personally; however, I wanted to let you know how much my family enjoyed and appreciated the time they spent with you in the Sherlock Holmes library. Soren was in his glory and excitedly shared with me the photos and brochures from that event. Thank you again for accommodating us. We genuinely appreciate it.”

It was a morning that memories are made of. Soren has an open invitation to return, whenever he would like.

Tim Johnson
The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge

The story had a slightly different title in the Reminiscence of Mr. Sherlock Holmes, which appeared in the collection of Sherlockian writings Timeless Leadme. The title was changed to "Conan Doyle with Robert Barr and Robert McClure. Arthur Bartlett Maurice calls himself an ardent Sherlockian, and in discussing Conan Doyle's knighthood he suggests that the author of The Hound of the Baskervilles deserves the rank of baron, for "The Sign of Four" the title of viscount, for A Study in Scarlet the title of earl, for Memoirs he would deserve a marquess, and for The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes such a person ought to be a duke.

Arthur Bartlett Maurice was an American editor of several newspapers and The Bookman from 1899 onward, where he wrote the column "Chronicle and Comment." We know that Les Klinger and Susan Calvin have been skillful collectors of art over many years, and listening to David recount the tales behind various paintings and sculptures was a joy.

My personal favorite was David's recollections surrounding a photo taken of him with Harry Truman in the White House Rose Garden. (I will let you guess at the date.) Some history lessons beyond the Victorian Era can be quite entertaining!

Thanks to David for his continued support of the Collections and for sharing an afternoon with a wandering Sherlockian.

Conan Doyle mentions James Payn in over twenty letters to his mother. The Christie's auction had Lea #105 with 14 letters to Payn from Conan Doyle and 7 letters to Conan Doyle from Payn along with the photograph annotated on verso by Conan Doyle. The Man Who Created Sherlock Holmes by Andrew Lycett. It is captioned "Arthur with Payn 1897," and it credits The Arthur Conan Doyle Collection Lancelyn Green Bequest, Portsmouth City Council, All rights reserved.

So was the photograph taken in "Dr. Doyle's library"? We know that James Payn's chronic rheumatism forced him to resign as editor of Cornhill in March 1896 and he spent the last years of his life housebound at "3 Warrington Crescent, Maidia Vale, London. Conan Doyle did not move into Undershaw until October 1898, and James Payn is not recorded in the Guest Book. I suspect the photo was taken in James Payn's library. Conan Doyle visited Payn in his London home several times as he traveled between Norwood, Switzerland and Egypt. I believe that Arthur Bartlett Maurice had several errors in his enthusiastic article, which also appeared in The Literary Digest for August 29, 1908 with the same caption for the photo. Since both clippings were in John Bennett Shaw's scrapbook I suspect that he knew of the slight lapse.

One hundred years ago, in 1908, I can imagine how exciting it would have been to get your August 15th issue of Collier's to read a new Sherlock Holmes story after such a long spell of silence. All the other fan contents in the issue would only increase the satisfaction.

Richard Sveum, MD, BSI
Using the Collections

Marilyn and Jeremy Hanson, members of The Society of the Naval Treaty, recently visited the Sherlock Holmes Collections. They were pleased to tour the Collections and meet curator Tim Johnson.

Musings

Tim Johnson has certainly been busy. So busy, in fact, that we’ve decided to skip the normal 50 Years Ago column to make room for the extra photos and articles about the visitors to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. I don’t believe that there’s much competition between a 50 Years Ago Column and reading about a seven year old visitor to the Collections who can correctly identify an illustration as the one which accompanied “The Musgrave Ritual.”

Dick Sveum has provided us with a look at a photograph published 100 Years Ago and a review of the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections, with Les Iklanger as the featured speaker. PJ Doyle joins our list of writers and gives us information about the latest donation by David Hammer, who has been a good friend of the Holmes Collections.

Remembrances

In supporting the Sherlock Holmes Collections, many donors have made contributions either in honor or in memory of special persons.

To the Editor

Because of the high cost of returned newsletters, mailing list corrections requested—

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Because of the high cost of returned newsletters, we would appreciate being informed of changes of address or other corrections.

Timothy J. Johnson, Curator

A Visit From St. Kate’s

Over the course of a year we enjoy hosting any number of visits to the Collections. Some of these visits are connected with research or course work, but many others offer an opportunity to introduce visitors to the Collections for the first time. Such was the case with a visit from about thirty members of the College of Saint Catherine Alumnae Association Lifelong Learning program on Saturday, October 25th. “St. Kate’s” (as the College is locally known) was founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1905, and is one of the pre-eminent Catholic colleges educating women in the country. In addition to my work at the University of Minnesota, I am an adjunct faculty member in St. Kate’s graduate program in library and information science. So it was a special treat for me to welcome members of the St. Kate’s community to the Holmes Collections.

We began our morning together in the Givens Conference Suite with an overview of the Collections and a display of some of the notable items from the vault. One of the continuing mysteries to people unfamiliar with the history of the Collections is “why Minnesota?” How did the Collections come to be here and how have they continued to grow? This opening session answered those questions and allowed our guests to get an up-close look at many of these treasures. Many were thrilled to look at the first appearance of a Holmes story in the Becton’s Christmas Annual or to see an original manuscript page from The Hound of the Baskervilles. Other items on display included a Peanuts cartoon panel from the Mackler Collection, radio scripts from the Meiser Collection, one of John Bennett Shaw’s notebooks on Holmes in the Theater, and some of our three-dimensional artifacts.

After everyone had a chance to view the items on display we continued on to the second part of the morning’s events, a tour of the underground caverns. Along the way we paused at the 221B Baker Street sign formerly on display at John Bennett Shaw’s house in Sante Fe and now near the front door of our suite. It was the perfect place...