



## Calabash Press . . . Fine Sherlockian Books

### NEW YEAR WAREHOUSE CLEARANCE

It's the Sherlockian time of year, with Holmes's birthday just around the corner. Celebrate, and take advantage of all-time low prices in Calabash Press's New Year Warehouse Clearance Sale.

#### SHERLOCKIAN COMMENTARY:

#### HOT ON THE SCENT: A Visitor's Guide to the London of Sherlock Holmes

by Arthur M. Alexander

HOT ON THE SCENT is one guide-book you will not want to leave at home if you are planning a trip to London any time soon. HOT ON THE SCENT offers the visitor a choice of thirty-five walks through Sherlock Holmes's London, ranging from short afternoon strolls to full day outings.

Years of research went into making HOT ON THE SCENT the very best guide to Sherlock Holmes's London that has ever been available. Its pages are crammed with information on what to see, where to go, and what to photograph, and the guide is fully illustrated with over a hundred photographs and detailed maps for each walk. In addition, a series of Appendixes guides the visitor through the history associated with the City of Holmes. An ideal field guide, or armchair reference book. Not to be missed.

Original Price US\$27.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**



#### VIOLETS & VITRIOL

Essays about Sherlock Holmes & Conan Doyle

edited by Susan E. Dahlinger

VIOLETS & VITRIOL is unique. Far from being just another volume of essays on Sherlock Holmes, this collection is the first to be penned entirely by women, and its appearance, timed to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the 'birthday' of Sherlock Holmes, is refreshingly welcome.

Since the word 'Sherlockian' was first coined in 1903, women have enthusiastically taken the Sherlockian movement to their hearts. They have served with distinction as the heads of such major societies as The Sherlock Holmes Society of London, The Bootmakers of Toronto, and The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes. They have founded or joined smaller societies worldwide, served on executive committees, curated Special Collections, taught Conan Doyle-related courses, planned Sherlockian weekends, addressed conferences, edited and written for journals, served up the refreshments at many a Sherlockian gathering, and made it all look effortless. For more than seventy years, they have also answered with grace and charm the question: 'Just what is it you women see in Sherlock Holmes?'

Sherlockiana without women would be like the canon without its notable female characters: nowhere near as lively or entertaining. So join the ladies as they discuss matters relating to Sherlock Holmes and his creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and enjoy their musings on such diverse topics as Irene Adler, The Long Island Cave Mystery, Brigadier Gerard, Dinosaurs and *The Lost World*, Mrs Beeton, Madame Blavatsky, Vincent Starrett, Holmes's 'bedside manner', P. G. Wodehouse, and much, much more.

Contributors to this volume: Paula Cohen, S. E. Dahlinger, Barbara Roden, Nancy Beiman, Mia Stampe, Julia Carlson Rosenblatt, Deborah Clark, Naomi Hayashi, Yukimo Shigaki, Hiromi Sasabe, Judith Freeman, Catherine Cooke, Dayna McCausland, Beth Austin, Lynn E. Walker, Rosemary Michaud, Diana Barsham, Karen Anderson, Barbara Rusch, Roberta Davies, Susan Rice, Marina Stajic, Julie McKuras, Marilyn McGregor, and Sarah Montague.

Original Price US\$23.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**

#### I AM INCLINED TO THINK

Musings on Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle

by Barbara Roden

Did Jack the Ripper inspire a gruesome touch in one of the Sherlock Holmes stories? Was Inspector Lestrade an idiot (and is Dr Watson really as intelligent as some Sherlockians like to make him out to be)? Did Holmes really dislike and distrust women? Are the similarities between 'The Red-Headed League' and 'The Three Garridebs' more than mere coincidence? And are Sherlockians in danger of not seeing the forest for the trees in their tireless analysis of the minutiae of the canon? These questions and more are posed (and answered) in this collection of nine articles about Sherlock Holmes, Arthur Conan Doyle, and that wondrous world where it is always 1895.

Barbara Roden's first Sherlockian article was published in 1988, and since then she has contributed dozens of articles to such publications as *Canadian Holmes*, *The Baker Street Journal*, *The Ritual*, *The Musgrave Papers*, *ACD: The Journal of The Arthur Conan Doyle Society*, the *New Strand Magazine*, and *Sherlock Holmes Detective Magazine*. In 1988 she helped to found the westernmost Holmes Society in Canada, The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia, and in 1990 was named a Master Bootmaker by the Bootmakers of Toronto. She is one-half of the Sherlockian publisher Calabash Press, and writes a regular column for *Canadian Holmes*, for which she was awarded the Derrick Murdoch Memorial Award in 2002.

Original Price: US\$10.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$5.00**



## THE CASE FILES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES SERIES

Each volume in the series considers aspects of the various Holmes adventures through original essays by leading Sherlockian and Doylean writers, offering both a conventional and unconventional approach to the subject. Four volumes have been published so far (the first, which considers 'The Musgrave Ritual' is now, regrettably, out of print). The series' general editors are Christopher Roden and Barbara Roden.

### THE SPECKLED BAND

*'It is not cold which makes me shiver,' said the woman in a low voice, changing her seat as requested.*

*'What then?'*

*'It is fear, Mr Holmes. It is terror.'*

With those three short sentences, Conan Doyle succeeds in sending tingles down the spines of his readers, raising the hairs on the backs of their necks, and setting the scene for what is perhaps the most popular of all the Sherlock Holmes short stories.

Conan Doyle also creates mysteries within the mystery, which have fuelled Sherlockian debate for decades: do snakes drink milk? could a snake be trained to climb a bell-rope?

In addition to examining previous scholarship relating to the case, this latest addition to The Case Files examines Conan Doyle's possible sources and his stage dramatisation, and offers modern interpretations of the story's features.

Join us on this latest journey to Stoke Moran, home of the fearsome Dr Grimesby Roylott. Once more, the game is afoot!

Hardback only. Original Price US\$30.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$15.00**

### THE DYING DETECTIVE

When Mrs Hudson visits Dr Watson, it is to bring grave news: her favourite lodger—Watson's closest friend, Sherlock Holmes—is on the brink of death, victim of an unknown illness contracted while working on a case near the river. However, even though Watson rushes to his aid, Holmes will allow the help of only one man—Culverton Smith, a planter from Sumatra—and Watson is despatched in search of him.

This, the third volume in The Case Files series, examines the methods employed by Sherlock Holmes, and the apparent lack of concern he showed towards his best friend, and his 'long-suffering' landlady.

Did the ends justify the means? Did Conan Doyle originally conceive this story as a play? Just what was the part played by Conan Doyle's secretary in the composition of the adventure? What were the circumstances which led to this story being illustrated by the man who was the model for Sherlock Holmes? These are some of the many topics discussed by the team of experienced Sherlockian writers contributing to *The Dying Detective*. The outcome? Well, it can perhaps be summarised by saying that old detectives never die: they just become delirious!

Hardback: Original Price US\$30.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$15.00**

Paperback: Original Price US\$21.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**

### THE BLUE CARBUNCLE

*Beside the couch was a wooden chair, and on the angle of the back hung a very seedy and disreputable hard felt hat, much the worse for wear, and cracked in several places.*

It is the second morning after Christmas, and Dr Watson has called upon his friend Sherlock Holmes with the intention of wishing him the compliments of the season. However, Watson soon becomes side-tracked into the study of the battered felt hat, which has been the subject of Holmes's close attention. Its owner has also lost something more: his Christmas goose—a goose which lays a sparkling egg: the Countess of Morcar's blue carbuncle.

This, the fourth of the Case Files series, traces the methods employed by Holmes as he seeks to trace the owner of the hat, and, more importantly, the whereabouts of the lost jewel.

'The Blue Carbuncle' entertains us with a fine range of characters: Peterson, the Commissionaire; the landlord of The Alpha Inn; Breckinridge, the poulterer who enjoys a flutter on the horses; and James Ryder, a snivelling, small-time crook, who grovels his way through one of the most popular of all the Sherlock Holmes adventures. The Case File's writing team considers the problems of the case, and, in addition, discusses topics relevant to the Victorian Christmas in general. Join us for a journey back in time to the Christmas London of Sherlock Holmes.

Hardback: Original Price US\$31.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$15.00**

Paperback: Original Price US\$21.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**

### THE TRANSCENDENT HOLMES

*by John Warwick Montgomery*

In a series of sparkling and intelligently presented essays, Dr Montgomery takes a fresh look at the world 'where it is always eighteen ninety-five'—the world of Baker Street and Sherlock Holmes.

Besides examining long debated problems, such as the true location of 221B; which was Holmes's University; how many times Watson was married; and where Watson was wounded, Dr Montgomery also considers Holmes's activities in Tibet, his writings, his brother Mycroft, and his liking for fine wines.

In a stunning climax to the volume, the reader is presented with a discussion between Holmes and Watson which will almost certainly cause him/her to pause, think, and deeply consider the depth of the message conveyed.

'He appears to have read everything, considered it, assimilated it, and found new ways to present it to his readers. . . . a book for every Sherlockian who worries about the future of our scholarship.' — *The Baker Street Journal*

Paperback. Original Price US\$19.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$7.50**

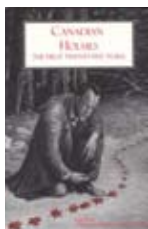


### CANADIAN HOLMES: THE FIRST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

*edited by Christopher Redmond*

Whenever a Sherlock Holmes Society is formed, someone, sooner or later, will suggest that the Society should have a newsletter or a journal. The Bootmakers of Toronto were no exception to this rule, and the first issue of the society's magazine, *Canadian Holmes*, appeared in the summer of 1973.

From small beginnings, and an irregular publishing schedule, *Canadian Holmes* is now one of the foremost Sherlockian society publications.



Over the years, the content of *Canadian Holmes* has been varied, scholarly, entertaining, and—above all—always interesting; from time to time it has also managed to be controversial: at the cutting edge of criticism of the Sherlockian world, so to speak.

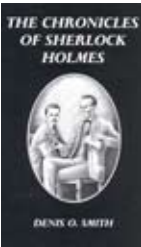
*Canadian Holmes* has also always managed to maintain a national identity. While its various editors have published material from around the world, the magazine remains intrinsically Canadian (with ALL that is good about being Canadian!)—and is all the better for that. Thus, each issue of the magazine offers a detailed ‘Bootmaker’s Diary’, a record of almost everything that happens in the day to day life of a Sherlockian society; and articles viewing Holmes and Conan Doyle from a Canadian perspective are a regular feature.

Discover the world of the Bootmakers of Toronto—the entertainment and diversity of the articles which its members have penned over the years—in this volume, which was published to celebrate their twenty-fifth anniversary.

Hardback. Original Price US\$36.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**

## PASTICHE, ETC.

### THE CHRONICLES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES SERIES *by Denis O. Smith*



#### Volume One:

includes: ‘The Adventure of the Purple Hand’, ‘The Adventure of the Unseen Traveller’, ‘The Adventure of the Zodiac Plate’.  
Paperback only. Original Price US\$19.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**

#### Volume Two:

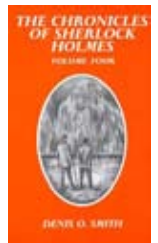
includes: ‘The Secret of Shoreswood Hall’, ‘The Adventure of the Green Umbrella’, ‘The Adventure of the Christmas Visitor’.  
Paperback only. Original Price US\$19.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**

#### Volume Four:

When Sherlock Holmes is consulted by an Infantry Captain, who, on his return from the war in Afghanistan, is ignored and shunned by friends and acquaintances in his home village—where he has been liked and respected all his life—a tale of betrayal and murder begins to unfold. Such is the scenario for ‘The Adventure of the Willow Pool’, the centrepiece of this, the fourth collection of The Chronicles of Sherlock Holmes.

You are invited to follow Holmes in this new adventure, and those of ‘The Adventure of the Von Strauffhausen Papers’, ‘The North Walk Mystery’, and ‘The Adventure of the Yellow Glove’.

Hardback: Original Price US\$31.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$15.00**  
Paperback: Original Price US\$21.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**



### THE IRREGULAR CASEBOOK OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

*by Ron Weighell*

Sherlock Holmes, wrote his friend and chronicler John H. Watson, was an ‘unofficial adviser and helper to everybody who is absolutely puzzled’, and as such Holmes came into contact with ‘all that is strange and bizarre’. Cases such as The Hound of the Baskervilles or ‘The Sussex Vampire’ show the great detective dealing with matters which certainly are strange and bizarre; yet in all of the sixty cases in the canon, Holmes proves that the supernatural plays no part in the matter under investigation.

What if, however, those sixty cases did not tell the entire story? In *The Irregular Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*, we encounter five cases which test Holmes’s powers to the limit; strange and bizarre cases involving forces that are not of this world. Missing manuscripts, strange sects, sudden deaths, and mysterious encounters all lead Holmes and Watson into a twilight world of mystery, magic, and danger, where nothing is commonplace and people are not what they seem. Along the way, the pair travel as far afield as Egypt and Venice; enlist the aid of Holmes’s brother Mycroft; investigate a supposed werewolf attack; and are asked for assistance by two masters of the weird tale, M. R. James and Arthur Machen.

Skilfully blending the classic supernatural tale with Holmes stories written in the style of Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Irregular Casebook of Sherlock Holmes* will appeal to all those readers who, like Watson, share the great detective’s love of ‘all that is bizarre and outside the conventions and humdrum routine of everyday life’.

Paperback only. Original Price US\$19.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**



### THE SCROLL OF THE DEAD

*by David Stuart Davies*

This adventure pits the Great Detective against one of the most obsessive foes he has ever encountered—Sebastian Melmoth, a Wildean character hell-bent on attaining immortality through secrets contained in an Egyptian papyrus.

Paperback only. Original Price US\$19.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**



### ABSOLUTE DISCRETION

*by Grant Eustace*

The quiet Somerset countryside, in the autumn of 1873. At Langston Park House, the home of the Earl of Warminster, a visitor is expected—hardly an unusual event. However, this particular visitor is a young Oxford student who calls himself Vernet, and he has been asked to make some delicate inquiries about the Earl’s family. And all around the village of Langston there are other secrets, which their keepers would prefer stayed hidden: a difficult task under the penetrating grey eyes of the young student.

Vernet’s arrival, which coincides with a search in the area for an Army deserter, proves to be the catalyst for a chain of events which solves mysteries and uncovers secrets—but also leads several people to their deaths.

Paperback. Original Price US\$19.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$7.50**





**PLAYSCRIPT**  
**SHERLOCK HOLMES—THE LAST ACT!**

*by David Stuart Davies*

The one-man play from the pen of David Stuart Davies, so highly acclaimed following its appearances in Britain and North America. The script has a Foreword by Edward Hardwicke, introductory comments from actor Roger Llewellyn, who has made the part his own, and an Author's Afterword, telling how the play came about.

Paperback. Original Price US\$15.00. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$5.00**

**OWN A SHERLOCK HOLMES MANUSCRIPT!**



If you have ever longed to own a Sherlock Holmes manuscript, now is the time to fulfil your ambition! Calabash Press is pleased to offer a facsimile of the Sherlockian manuscript 'The Lion's Mane', at a price much reduced from that offered at the time of original publication.

'The Lion's Mane' was a joint production between Westminster Libraries and The Sherlock Holmes Society of London.

The manuscript illustrates the clarity of Conan Doyle's thought as he was writing: it is amazing to see just how few alterations he made (though 'The Lion's Mane' is perhaps the most altered of all). 'The Lion's Mane' also provides a hint as to how ACD originally intended that story to resolve itself. You can now study those changes for yourself.

**THE LION'S MANE**

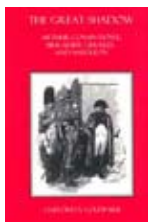
This volume reproduces the entire manuscript of the story and has an Introduction by Colin Dexter, and an Afterword by Richard Lancelyn Green.

Hardback. Original Price US\$19.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$10.00**

**ON CONAN DOYLE**

**THE GREAT SHADOW: Arthur Conan Doyle, Brigadier Gerard, and Napoleon**

*by Clifford S. Goldfarb*



Throughout the nineteenth century, the great shadow of Napoleon hovered over Europe, and the character of Napoleon was to influence many writers of the time—none more so than Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes.

Conan Doyle read widely on the Napoleonic era, eventually producing his own contributions to the steadily growing body of literature on 'The Great Shadow'. In particular, he developed the character of Brigadier Gerard to run through a series of stories in *The Strand Magazine* after Sherlock Holmes had been 'killed off' in 1893.

In this study, Clifford S. Goldfarb discusses all of Conan Doyle's Napoleonic fiction: *The Exploits of Brigadier Gerard*, *Adventures of Gerard*, two short stories, 'The Marriage of the Brigadier' and 'A Straggler of '15' (later adapted for the play *Waterloo*, so loved by Sir Henry Irving); and the novels *Rodney Stone*, *Uncle Bernac*, and *The Great Shadow*.

Brigadier Gerard has languished in the shadow of Conan Doyle's detective Sherlock Holmes for far too long. This study will help him leave that shadow, and establish himself as a character as much worthy of study as Sherlock Holmes himself.

Paperback. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$7.50.**

There is also a limited number of Hardback copies available. Please enquire.

**OUT OF THE SHADOWS: The Untold Story of Arthur Conan Doyle's First Family**

*by Georgina Doyle*



Arthur Conan Doyle remains one of the most popular literary personalities, and new biographical studies appear regularly. One neglected aspect of his life, however, has been the period of his first marriage. Happily, Georgina Doyle is now able to enhance our understanding of ACD's background and early family life. Drawing on a storehouse of letters and diaries left by her husband John Doyle, she provides a detailed and thought-provoking account, illustrating it with more than seventy photographs from her own collection. This study does, indeed, bring ACD's first wife, Louise, and her children out of the shadows which have hidden them for far too long.

Hardback: Original Price US\$42.50. **SALE PRICE Cdn\$/US\$20.00**

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