



## From the Chair

By Thomas A. Horrocks, BSI

As we gradually emerge from the *annus horribilis* of Covid, things are beginning to look up on many fronts. As far as the BSI Trust is concerned, there are several significant activities on the horizon. On October 2, 2021, the BSI Trust will inaugurate an annual lecture series, whose purpose is to promote and support the activities of the Trust. The first annual BSI Trust Lecture will be delivered via webinar by Roberta Pearson, Professor of Film and Television Studies in the School of Cultures, Languages, and Area Studies at the University of Nottingham. The topic of Dr. Pearson's presentation will be announced soon. Please save the date. Further details on the lecture will be circulated via News from the BSI email, and on the BSI and BSI Trust websites.



In the last newsletter I mentioned the magnificent donation of books by Costa Rossakis (at left), appraised at roughly \$75,000, that the BSI Trust will sell to support the BSI archives at the Lilly Library. The BSI Trust has consigned the books with Heritage Auctions, which will sell the books at its Rare Books auction on December 9-10 in Dallas. Bidding

information will be provided on the Heritage Auction website at [www.ha.com](http://www.ha.com) and on the BSI Trust website sometime in November.

Around the time of the BSI Trust lecture, the Lilly Library, home to the BSI Archives, will reopen its doors to researchers after being closed for major renovations. I want to thank Erika Dowell of the Lilly for her renovations update in this issue of the newsletter. Once the Lilly opens its new doors, the BSI Trust will announce new procedures for sending materials to the archives. In the meantime, those who want to donate material to the BSI Archives should continue to follow the usual practice. For those in the U.S. donating materials to the archives, please send them to Dan Polvere at 828 Racine Street, Bellingham, WA 98229, and those

living outside the U.S., please send materials to Bob Coghill at 310-200 Nelson's Crescent, New Westminster, BC V3L OH4 CANADA.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned two BSI Trust initiatives to promote and support the BSI Archives. One is the BSI Trust lecture series, which I discussed at the beginning of this column. The other, a fund to support researchers who require travel to the Lilly Library in order to consult the archives, will be inaugurated in 2022 when the Lilly is back up and running and is able to service researchers. Additional details on this new program will be available in a future newsletter.

I am pleased to announce that the Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 issues of the *For Sake of the Trust* newsletter will be reproduced in the 2020 issue of the *Baker Street Almanac*, edited by Ross Davies. I want to thank Ross for his willingness to circulate these and future issues of the newsletter to a wider audience of readers.

Finally, I want to thank Peter Blau, Bob Coghill, and our editor, Michael Pollak, for their articles in this issue of *For the Sake of the Trust*.

Warm wishes for your safety and good health.



## “What Can I Do With All Those Duplicates?”

By Peter E. Blau, BSI

Actually, the first question to consider might well be, “How did I wind up with all those duplicates?” The answer is that anyone who collects energetically for any length of time will find that duplicates seem to accumulate -- quietly, but persistently.

No matter how good a collector's memory is, eventually you will buy a book that you already own, something you've found on a bookshop's shelves and can't remember reading, or even seeing, before. And when you get home, there it is, already on your shelves. There often is the decision to upgrade what you have, perhaps when you can replace a well-used copy of a book with one in better condition, in a dust jacket. There are charity book sales, where one sometimes finds books priced so cheaply that they shouldn't be left behind; there's always a need, after all, for modest prizes for those who win society quizzes.

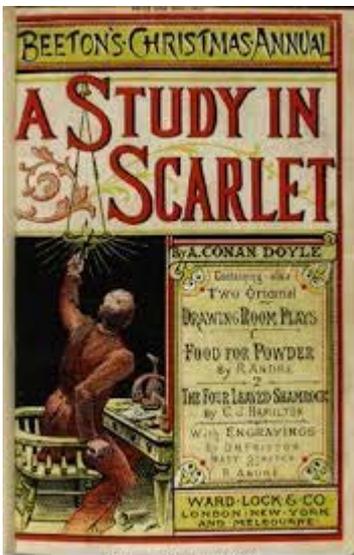
Estate sales often feature a box of books that includes something missing from your collection, along with a number of others you already have, but you can't pick and choose, and the books aren't expensive, and you wind up buying the entire box. Then there are all those nice people who send you presents, and should never be told, "Thanks, but I already have that."

You will hear that a collector friend is downsizing, or that heirs are wondering what to do when a spouse or parent has died. I learned years ago from the late John Bennett Shaw that one should always say, "Don't throw it out . . . send it to me." That's the best way to ensure that ephemera that would not be of interest to a dealer are not discarded.

And so it goes. Like coat hangers in your closet, duplicates accumulate. The boxes of duplicates accumulate. And eventually you're told, "YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING WITH ALL THOSE BOXES!"

That raises a new question: "What can I do with all those duplicates?"

The answer, of course, is that you should donate them to the BSI Trust, which welcomes your duplicates and sells them to raise money to support the BSI Archives. The Trust is always interested in BSI-related material that belongs in the Archives, but of course it also is interested in generating funds for the Archives. It is grand that Denny Dobry has volunteered to do just that, bringing all sorts of Sherlockian material to the birthday festivities in New York, and to society meetings, offering it all for sale at modest prices.



Courtesy of Sotheby's (RCJ)

Donating one's duplicates to the BSI Trust also is a splendid opportunity to share with others, especially with others who are finding their way into the world of collecting, and this, certainly, is just as important as supporting the BSI Archives

I'm happy to report that I have indeed done something with all those boxes. Denny kindly came to visit and carried them all away. All those duplicates eventually will find new homes on someone else's shelves. One should note that the Trust is certified as a nonprofit organization, and

that donations of books can be recorded as charitable deductions at income-tax time.

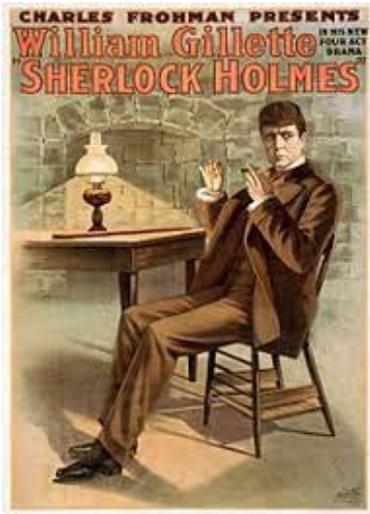
It will be wonderful when the current pandemic subsides and we can go to meetings again, but in the meantime, Denny also offers a want-list service: If there's something you're trying to find for your collection, tell him. He may have it, and if he doesn't, he can let you know when it does turn up. Remember, it's all for the sake of the trust.

*(Editor's note: Collectors who would like to contact Denny – to send him a want list, to request the list of inventory available for sale, or to make a donation of books and other Sherlockiana – can do so at <[dendobry@ptd.net](mailto:dendobry@ptd.net)>. Arrangements can be made to have your donation picked up by Denny's Parnassus on Wheels from areas that are within a one-day round trip from Reading, PA. The one-day restriction has been known to be extended for special collections. Other donations can be mailed to Denny Dobry, 5003 Stony Run Drive, Reading, PA 19606.)*



## From the Editor

By Michael Pollak, BSI



Laurie and I finally got out of the neighborhood in April, traveling a thousand miles into Texas for my son's wedding. My tomatoes and beans are growing nicely. Spring is my favorite season, and – gloomy London autumns notwithstanding – it is also apparently the season of choice for Watson and Holmes, judging by its vivid appearances in the Canon.

Here is a little quiz for our readers: Match each springtime quotation to the

story in which it appears. (Answers further down in the newsletter.)

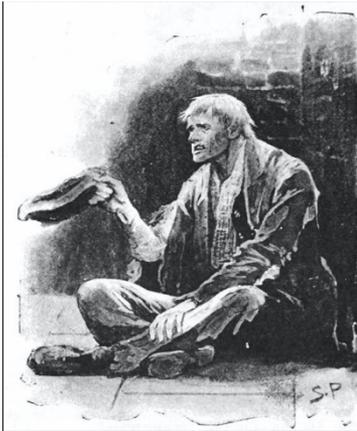
1. One day in early spring he had so far relaxed as to go for a walk with me in the Park, where the first faint shoots of green were breaking out upon the elms, and the sticky spear-heads of the chestnuts were just beginning to burst into their five-fold leaves.

2. It was a perfect day, with a bright sun and a few fleecy clouds in the heavens. The trees and way-side hedges were just throwing out their first green shoots, and the air was full of the pleasant smell of the moist earth. To me at least there was a strange contrast between the sweet promise of the spring and this sinister quest upon which we were engaged.

3. It was an ideal spring day, a light blue sky, flecked with little fleecy white clouds drifting across from west to east. The sun was shining very brightly, and yet there was an exhilarating nip in the air, which set an edge to a man's energy.

4. It was a large and bright dwelling, rather a villa than a cottage, with a considerable garden which was already, in that Cornish air, well filled with spring flowers.

5. It was a lovely trip, the dainty green of the spring below, the virgin white of the winter above; but it was clear to me that never for one instant did Holmes forget the shadow which lay across him.



Of course, spring is also the season of spring cleaning, and an ideal time to relieve your domicile of Sherlockian material which, if given to the Archive, will be magically transformed from clutter into historical records and auction material.

*Please give to the Archive.*



## Added to the Archives

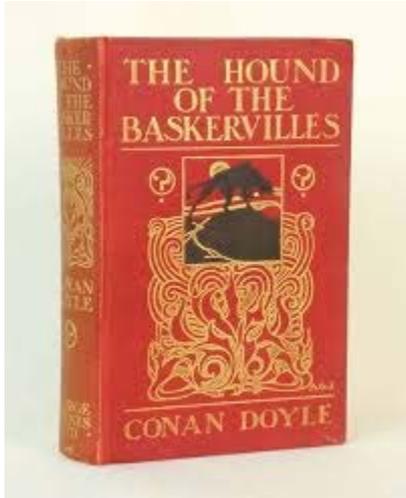
By Bob Coghill, BSI

Two significant things greatly reduced the quantity of the material that was sent to the Lilly Library in 2020.

The first was the closing of the border. As our material is securely stored at Safe Storage Solutions in Blaine, Wash., and I live in New Westminster, British Columbia, that created an access problem, which kept getting extended month after month.

Then in April 2020, I heard from Tom, asking me not to send anything to the Lilly until further notice, as the library was closed temporarily and not

receiving any shipments. So that at least took the pressure off not being able to get to the boxes.



Below is a summary of the material that was sent in 2020 “before the world went all awry.”

Bartlett Simms, M.D., 180 pages, correspondence of Bartlett Simms.

Joseph J. Eckrich, 15 pages, correspondence.

Christopher Morley, “Sherlock Holmes’s Prayer,” 4 pages, boxed with description from the auction.

Julian Wolff, The Baker Street Irregulars, one sheet boxed.

James Keddie, Scrapbook, 43+ pages. Purchased at the Posnansky auction; likely James Keddie’s scrapbook.

Edgar W. Smith, honorary membership card for Edgar W. Smith in the Sons of the Copper Beeches.

Julian Wolff, 120 pages, a collection of materials presented to Julian Wolff. Primarily from Bliss Austin.

James Montgomery, 86 pages, the Crown Diamond papers; includes clippings and correspondence between James Montgomery, Edgar W. Smith, Anthony Howlett and Adrian Conan Doyle. Boxed with file inside.



BSI Trust donors of books and miscellaneous Sherlockian paraphernalia:

## 2021

Paul Singleton, 2021 Birthday Weekend, list of presentations, toasts, skits, readings, poems at the Gillette Memorial Luncheon, BSI dinner and BSI cocktail party

## 2020

David Haugen, 2 boxes of books  
Margaret Prescott, 2 boxes of books and Sherlockiana  
Estate of John Pforr, 16 boxes of books and other Sherlockiana  
Glen Miranker, 2 boxes of books and other Sherlockiana  
Carla Coupe, 15 books  
Andrew Fusco, 20 books  
Frank Mentzel, 280 books and 50 miscellaneous Sherlockian items  
Hugh Harrington, 8 boxes of books, 8 celebrity Sherlockian signatures,  
bust of Holmes (by Edgar Smith)  
Michael Hoffman, BSI Estate, 160 books, 152 BSJs  
Terry Hunt, 5 books and Gillette poster  
Jacqueline and Brent Morris, 30 books and miscellaneous Sherlockiana  
Betti Barrows, 40 Baker Street Journals  
Julius Spada, 20 books

## 2019

Allan DeGray, 250 books  
Joseph T. Page Jr., 5 books  
Peter Blau, 500 books  
Michael Dirda, 50 books  
Jeff Decker, 40 books  
Otto Penzler, 40 books  
Ira Matetsky, 20 books  
Ben Vizoskie, 30 books  
Paul Hartnett, 50 comics/books  
Anastasia Klimchynskaya, 75 BSJs plus other Sherlockian paraphernalia  
Ann Marlowe, 250 books

## 2018

Steven Rothman, 10 boxes  
Phyllis Jones, 70 boxes  
Jay Hyde, 25 boxes and miscellaneous paraphernalia  
Leah Guinn, 10 boxes  
Les Klinger, 3 boxes  
Peter Blau, 30 books  
Robert Katz, 2 boxes  
Ray Betzner, 2 boxes  
Andrew Solberg, Sherlockian games and stuffed animals  
James Saunders, 4 boxes of books, original framed drawings and  
miscellaneous paraphernalia

## 2017

Jeff Homan, 5 boxes, est. value \$250  
Barbara Lupin, 5 boxes, est. value \$250  
Steve Harding, 10 boxes, est. value \$500

James Saunders, items with est. value of \$1,000

Lynn Whittall, 10 boxes

Philip K. Jones, 10 boxes

Denny Dobry

2016

Debbie Clark, est. value \$250



## Moving Into the Renovated Lilly Library

By Erika Dowell

Associate Director and Curator of Modern Books & Manuscripts

In summertime a college town sees a lot of people moving: from the dorm to a summer sublet, from a shared house to a first job. The Lilly Library staff and collections are moving this summer, too! We might even have some unneeded furniture, but we won't be leaving our couches on the curb.



Contractors installed our beautiful new bronze front doors a few days ago. *[Photo shows a detail of the entry doors, custom designed with “lily” motif based on J. K. Lilly’s bookplate, April 2021.]* New furniture is being delivered and constructed throughout the library this month. Soon we will have a training session on all our new classroom technology. All these steps make the return to the building feel more real.

Renovation construction will be complete on April 30. The month of May will be devoted to the delivery of new exhibition cases, installation of the Reading Room murals, and the start of the collections move.

On August 2 our galleries will open to the public, followed by the opening of our Reading Room and research services on August 16. We will work

with students and local researchers at first but will start accepting out-of-town researchers by October if not earlier. For now, all our virtual services are shut down so that we can concentrate on the move.

In March I led staff tours of the renovated library and people are looking forward to the move back with a mix of excitement and trepidation. We are excited about our new teaching spaces and integrated technology, but also excited to be back living with the books and manuscripts close at hand. Trepidation is centered on the pandemic (of course) but also on the fact that our reopening seems to be coming up very fast. There is much left to do, but we have help from IU Libraries' colleagues and outside moving contractors.



*New lecture hall/classroom carved out of the former machine room,  
February 2021.*

We will be working flat out to get ready for August. But when those doors open to the public for the first time, I know we will be filled with the joy and excitement of a new academic year in a newly renovated building in a world coming alive from more than a year of isolation. We look forward to seeing all our friends, including all the BSI researchers who have been patiently waiting for access to the archives.



#### Answers to the quiz

1. The Yellow Face
2. The Adventure of the Speckled Band
3. The Adventure of the Copper Beeches
4. The Adventure of the Devil's Foot
5. The Final Problem

## Support the BSI Trust!

Thank you for donating to support of the Baker Street Irregulars Trust. Every tax-deductible dollar helps to collect, maintain and disseminate our Irregular history. By making a tax-deductible contribution, you can help ensure that BSI history will be available to our historians, researchers and the Sherlockian community. Please donate now by filling out the form below and mailing it to:

Leslie S. Klinger, BSI, c/o Kopple, Klinger & Elbaz LLP, 10866 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90024-4357

You may also donate using a credit card or PayPal via the BSI Trust website at <<http://www.bsitrust.org/2015/01/donations.html>>.

### Please select your gift:

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