



The Medical Bulletin

The Official Newsletter of

Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients
a Scion Society of **The Baker Street Irregulars**

Autumn 2015

Such an Exciting Year!

This year has been full of events but there are still more to come. We had our **Annual Dinner** in **January** which included a fashion show and a fascinating talk by Derrick Belanger. We were short a Staff Surgeon since Larry Feldman was stuck in Israel with some dreaded disease only slightly know to science. (We re-elected him in absentia anyway.)

Larry returned in February to host his monthly **Outpatient** meetings the first Sunday of each month Pint's Pub. Representatives of the **Denver Museum of Nature and Science** also began consulting with DWNP regarding the **International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes** (more on that later) and began visiting the Outpatient meetings.

In **May**, Sally, Stan, and Bill organized the **Spring Tea** at the **Denver Woman's Press Club** again. Derrick Belanger wrote an article about our 40th Anniversary that was published on June 2nd the blog called **I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere** (<http://www.ihearofsherlock.com/2015/06/celebrating-40-years-of-dr-watson.html>). It includes an interview with our founder Mary Ake. Also in June, Bill Dorn organized a joint dinner meeting between the **Neglected Patients** and Peter Blau's **Practical But Limited Geologists** group.

In July, a bunch of us went to the opening of the movie **Mr. Holmes**, starring Ian McClellan as a retired Sherlock Holmes. Bill Dorn spoke on Conan Doyle at the **Denver Book Paper Fair**.

In August, Mike Newman and Jennifer Petkus organized the **Second Annual Wodehouse/Holmes/Austin Cricket Outing**. We joined with other Anglophile groups to watch a match between local cricket teams.

Larry represented DWNP at the **Cultural Resources and Geek Fair** at the Longmont Museum on September 20th.



Neglected Patients at the Cricket Pitch

If all that was not enough excitement, the Board met in August and... (*Wake up, Watson! The game is afoot!*) revised our Bylaws and made several other changes that I will discuss later.



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Upcoming Events:

December Outpatients' Meeting

The next meeting of the **Outpatients** will be **Sunday, December 6 at 12:30 pm** at **Pints Pub**, 221 W. 13th Ave., Denver. There will be a trivia quiz about *the Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*. Please contact Larry Feldman at larry7639@aol.com or 303-333-3859

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

The legendary sleuth Sherlock Holmes takes the stage in this witty, fast-paced production by acclaimed **Aquila Theatre** at the **Lakewood Cultural Center** on November 21 & 22nd. The clever Holmes skillfully maneuvers the twisted web of London's crime world, using his superior intellect to make split-second deductions that reveal intimate and useful details for the case. – We are not planning a group outing for this at this time but are willing to assist any Patients who want to do so. You can find more information at <https://lakewood.showare.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=11>

International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes

This traveling exhibit will made its debut at the **Denver Museum of Nature and Science** on **October 23rd and run through January 31st**. Some members of Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients have been acting as local consultants with the museum personnel. A panel of Patients will be further advising the actors in the exhibit in early November. The museum kept changing the date. Contact Larry for more information

About 25-30 of us attended the VIP Opening on October 23rd at the invitation of the DMNS. The museum seems to have flubbed sending the invitations and not everyone got one. We have the option to organize another free group attendance later if we want. Please let Larry or Darlene know if you are interested. You can find out more about the exhibition here: <http://www.dmns.org/the-international-exhibition-of-sherlock-holmes/>

Annual Dinner

We have just started making plans for the annual dinner in January. Keep your eyes peeled. Details will be coming before the end of the year.

TV & Movies

Benedict Cumberbatch returns as Sherlock Holmes in a holiday special in a Victorian setting called *The Abominable Bride* premiering on 1st January on PBS and in theatres. He and Martin Freeman will be shooting another series of three *Sherlock* episodes next year. *Elementary* returns to CBS on November 5th, 2015. Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law will also reprise their roles as Holmes and Watson in a third movie sometime soon. See back page for information about Ian McKellan's *Mr. Holmes*.



Our Transcriber

As some of you know, our transcriber, Ron Lies was hospitalized with a serious illness in October. His brother brings good news that Ron is on his way to recovery. Continue to keep him in your thoughts and prayers.



Sherlockiana for Sale

We have been contacted by John Stevenson's sister Peggy to assist her in selling his collection to worthy fans of Sherlock Holmes. John has moved to Florida and left it behind to be sold. I have uploaded the files she sent including pictures and descriptions of the items to www.dwnp.com/sherlockiana.html

Chief Surgeon's Case Notes

By Darlene Cypser

I called a meeting of the Medical Board in August to deal with some issues. As a few of you know, DWNP lost its 501(c)(3) status a few years ago. There is no reason to go into the hows or whys of it. We believe it was inadvertent. The Board discussed this issue in early 2012 and for a number of reasons tabled it. However, since then I noticed some difficulties dealing with other non-profits such as Rocky Mountain PBS, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science and public libraries. We are willing to help them but they are afraid that promoting us will endanger their 501(c)(3) status because we are not one. In addition, we have been talking about the possibility of sponsoring a Sherlock Holmes convention. As some of you know there have been an increasing number of them on the east and west coasts but none in this part of the country. Some of us think this would be fun. Some of our members already are involved in other local conventions and know people who run them. So there is a local knowledge base to tap into. But to host a convention you really need to be a 501(c)(3) non-profit. The Board voted to file to re-establish our 501(c)(3) status.

In order to do that we needed to make a change in DWNP's Colorado corporate registration. We also needed to amend our Bylaws to make them conform to the IRS requirements for 501(c)(3) non-profit and to make them conform to the current ways DWNP is run. We have done that. We have also filed 2013EZ with the IRS. We just need to wait for the determination letter.

The cost of re-establishing 501(c)(3) was \$500. The filing fee with IRS is \$400 plus \$100 fee which was paid to the state of Colorado. Bank balance was at \$643 at the date of the meeting. (More dues have been received since then.) \$300 of that was owed to Larry. Jennifer suggested a crowdfunding campaign to get the remaining funds, but we need to establish the 501(c)(3) status to legitimately ask for the funds. The consensus of the board was that we should restore 501(c)(3) status and seek contributions to cover that cost afterwards.

We made several changes to the Bylaws. (You can have a copy if you want one.) Mostly we simplified them. We removed duties that no one had followed in decades. We removed committees that never met. We changed the election process to voice votes *unless 5 members call for a secret ballot*. We allowed for one person to hold multiple offices. We clarified that a family membership gets only a maximum of 2 votes.

We did not increase the dues. This is the second time during my tenure that the Board has considered the issue and decided to maintain the dues at \$10 for a single member and \$15 for a family. However, we did create a new level of membership. This was inspired by the example of some members who donated amounts over the annual dues. Now people who donate \$50 or more per year will be **Supporting Members**, a status which carries some additional benefits. Supporting Members will receive a special certificate, acknowledgement at annual dinner, and a receive 25% discount on tickets to the annual dinner and other DWNP sponsored events, including a convention if we decide to sponsor one. When renewal notices are sent out at the end of the year they will include information about the new **Supporting Member** level.

Early next year we will start having meetings with members and non-members on about whether we want to host a Sherlock Holmes convention, and if so, what it will look like. We haven't yet chosen a name. Suggestions are welcome!

The Board also discussed issues of privacy and availability of members' contact information. We concluded that we need to ask the members. Rather than ask for a vote and let the majority rule, we have decided to give each member the option to make some or all of their information available to other members or the public. So the renewal notices will also include options on the release of your contact information.



Ian McKellen. Sherlock Holmes.



What more do you need to know?

Mr. Holmes

In 1947, an aging Sherlock Holmes (Ian McKellen) in his remote seaside farmhouse, Holmes faces the end of his days tending to his bees. Grappling with the diminishing powers of his mind, Holmes comes to rely upon a boy as he revisits the circumstances of the unsolved case that forced him into retirement, and searches for answers to the mysteries of life and love—before it's too late.

Mr. Holmes will be released on DVD on November 10, 2015

Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients Calendar

November 5th – Season premiere of *Elementary* on CBS
December 6 – Outpatients Meeting at Pints Pub
January 19 – *The Abominable Bride* on Rocky Mountain PBS
January 3 – Outpatients Meeting at Pints Pub
January TBA – Annual Birthday Dinner

The Medical Bulletin is the official newsletter of **Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients**, a scion society of **The Baker Street Irregulars**, dedicated to keeping green the memory of Sherlock Holmes.

On the web: <http://www.dwnp.com> Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DrWatsonsNP>

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