

#DOYLE

THE ZINE



BY
THE DETECTIVES

Designed by Tom Stockley and PortCreative, 2022

Front cover art by Harry Humble

With artwork and text by The Detectives

With support from Central Library, Portsmouth



I wake.

my thoughts go out

I try

do more.

I wish I could have more strength

I can make the time, every minute & hour

surround you always.

IMAGE



The detectives are a group of unique, creative adults ranging from different backgrounds and ages across the Portsmouth area. Some of us are Conan Doyle fans and others are not.

Our aim is to bring Conan Doyle and his work to a wider audience across Portsmouth and beyond. Using the archives available in the collection, we work together as a team to discuss and plan events through the year. We use our different abilities to find interesting and engaging ways to transform the archives into projects that promote awareness of Arthur Conan Doyle's life and work.

The project helps individual Detectives in many ways. For one, it may be having the

opportunity to leave the house and meet new people in a low stress environment. For another, it could be about gaining experience for future employment. It gives each Detective the opportunity to contribute in their own way, meet people that have similar circumstances and be part of something bigger.

In these pages, you can find writing and images made by Terry Jones, Molly Hider, Chris Day, Louise Evans, Harry Humble, Bryan Woods, Tom Stockley and Alanna Burchett. Enjoy!

www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/support-us/the-detectives



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



TRAVELLING THE WORLD

“The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes.”

Arthur Conan Doyle arrived in Portsmouth in 1882 - but in his lifetime he also travelled to Vienna, Paris, Berlin, Milan, Athens, Ireland, West Africa, South Africa, Egypt, America, Canada, Scandinavia and the Arctic! His travels taught him a lot about the world and the people and ideas it contains. On these pages you can see some drawings, collages and poetry about Arthur's travels, and a letter from his time in Portsmouth.

Bush Villa

Southsea

Nov 26th 1900

Dear Mr Chapman

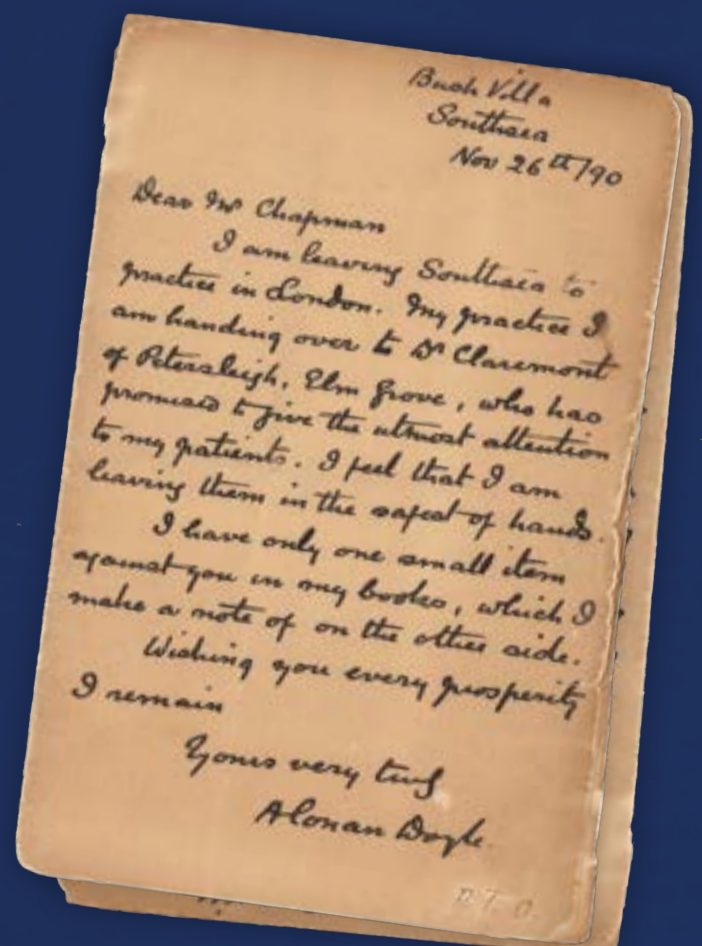
I am leaving Southsea to practise in London. My practice I am handing over to Dr Claremont of Petersleigh, Elm Grove, who has promised to give the utmost attention to my patients. I feel that I am leaving them in the safest of hands.

I have only one small item against you in my books, which I make a note of on the other side.

Wishing you every prosperity I remain

Yours very truly

A Conan Doyle



*Bush Villa
Southsea
Nov 26th 1900*

Dear Mr Chapman

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Yours very truly

Arthur Conan Doyle

I am deep in history

but it is, I think

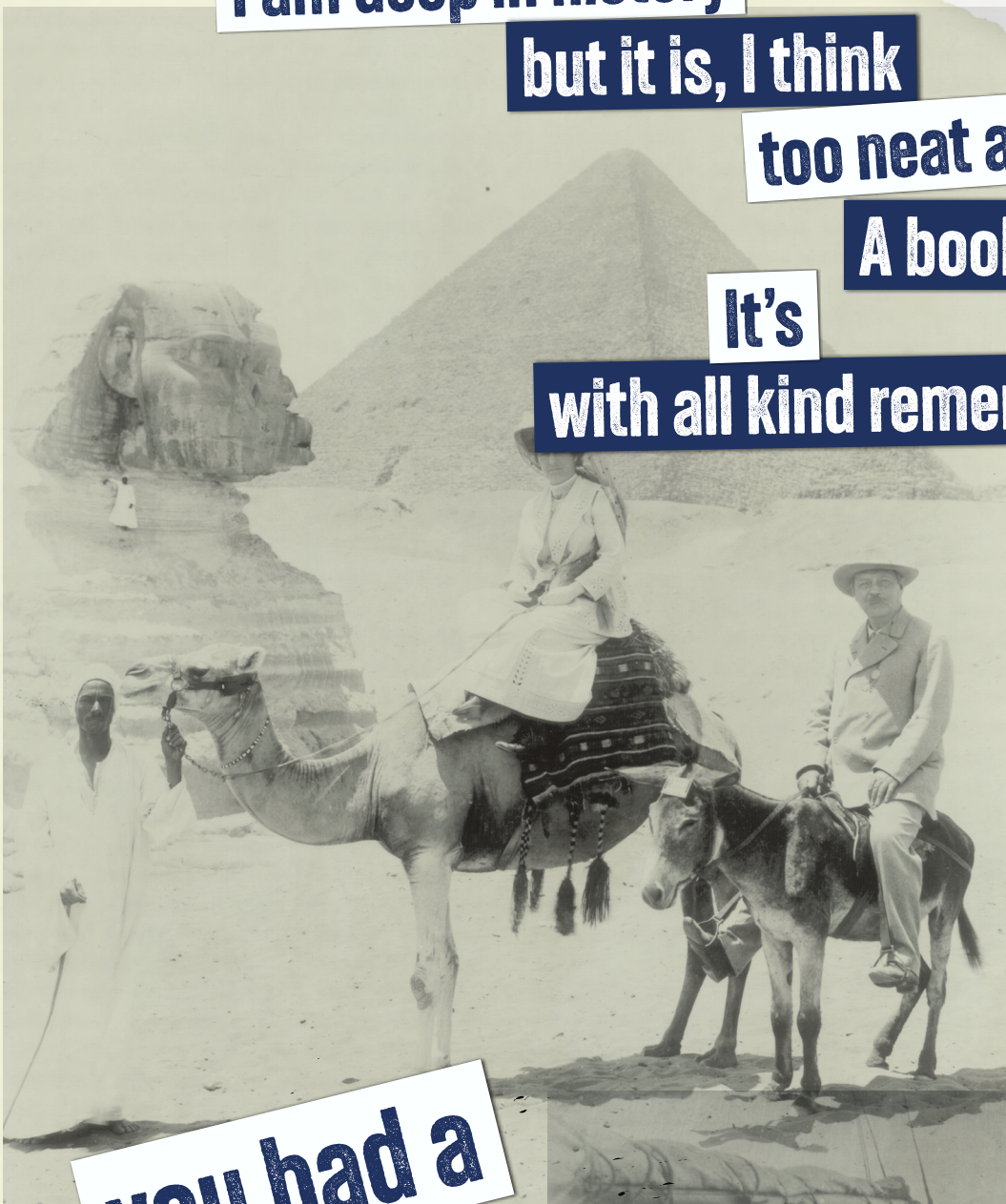
too neat and pretty

A book to read

It's

with all kind rememberances

A mess



you had a

longing for life

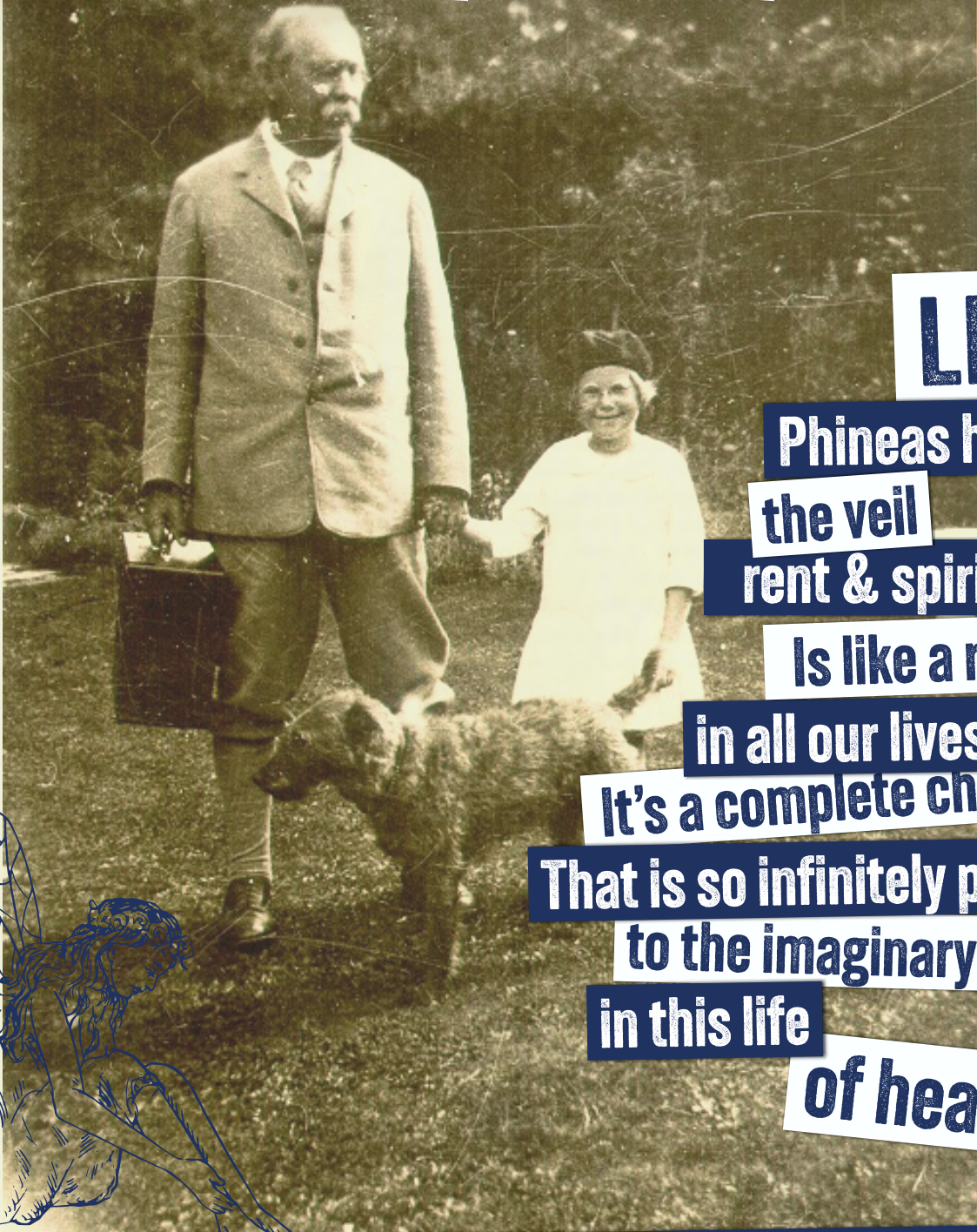
and

a mind on higher

things



THE UNEXPLAINED



LIFE

Phineas had said
the veil
rent & spirit
Is like a ray

in all our lives
It's a complete change
That is so infinitely precious
to the imaginary beings
in this life

of heaven

**“Life is infinitely stranger than anything which
the mind of man could invent.”**

15, Buckingham Palace Mansions,
S.W.1.

Dear old Chap,

Enclosed for you both.

You will all be interested to hear that I went to Mrs Lennard, the famous medium. She went into trance and Kingsley came through & spoke for two hours showing complete knowledge of all our affairs. "I notice little Jean has altered her way of wearing her hair. I approve of it." And so on. But most of his time he was talking about the Crisis, confirming everything Phineas had said! This is really final as I told Mrs L nothing. Next year it begins. We are

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Although well-known for his Sherlock Holmes and Lost World books, Arthur Conan Doyle was also fascinated by the spiritual, mystical and unexplained things in the real world - including ghosts and fairies!

The Cottingley Fairies was a hoax photograph taken in 1917 ... Arthur Conan Doyle believed this photo was real and used it to illustrate an article he wrote in 1920!



WAR And DEATH

“There are always some lunatics about. It would be a dull world without them.”



A photograph of Arthur Conan Doyle and his son, Kingsley

Arthur Conan Doyle lived through both world wars and was a doctor in the controversial Boer War in the early 1900's. He wrote various books and articles about war and his experience, and his son Kingsley died from complications two years after being wounded in World War 1.

11 July 1916

My dear Conan Doyle.

I am delighted to hear from you. I have been much interested in your letters lately in that journal called "Light" - which, by the way, seems to me to have improved of late. It has a new editor - a man named Gow - who seems a fairly sensible man.

Concerning the immediate object of your letter, I regret I am not able to sign. If Casement is lunatic, there will doubtless be medical evidence to that effect. But on no other ground that I see ought he to be let off, especially at a time like this, when people are being killed in shoals, and a few of them, as a result, I suppose, of his action. Had he been a merely misguided Irish patriot and fomented Irish disturbance, he might be pardonable; but to associate himself with the Germans seems to me quite unpardonable. I wish to goodness he had been killed at once, instead of its hanging on all this time. The cold-bloodedness of executions, it seems to me that Casement deserves all he gets.

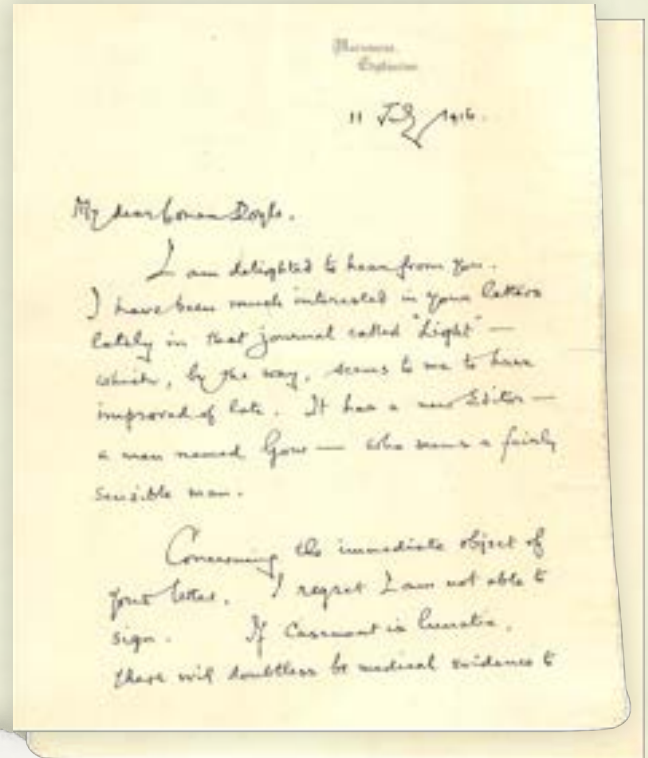
You may of course have special and medical knowledge denied to me.

I am sorry not to be able to do anything that you request.

Believe me,

Most faithfully yours,

Oliver Lodge



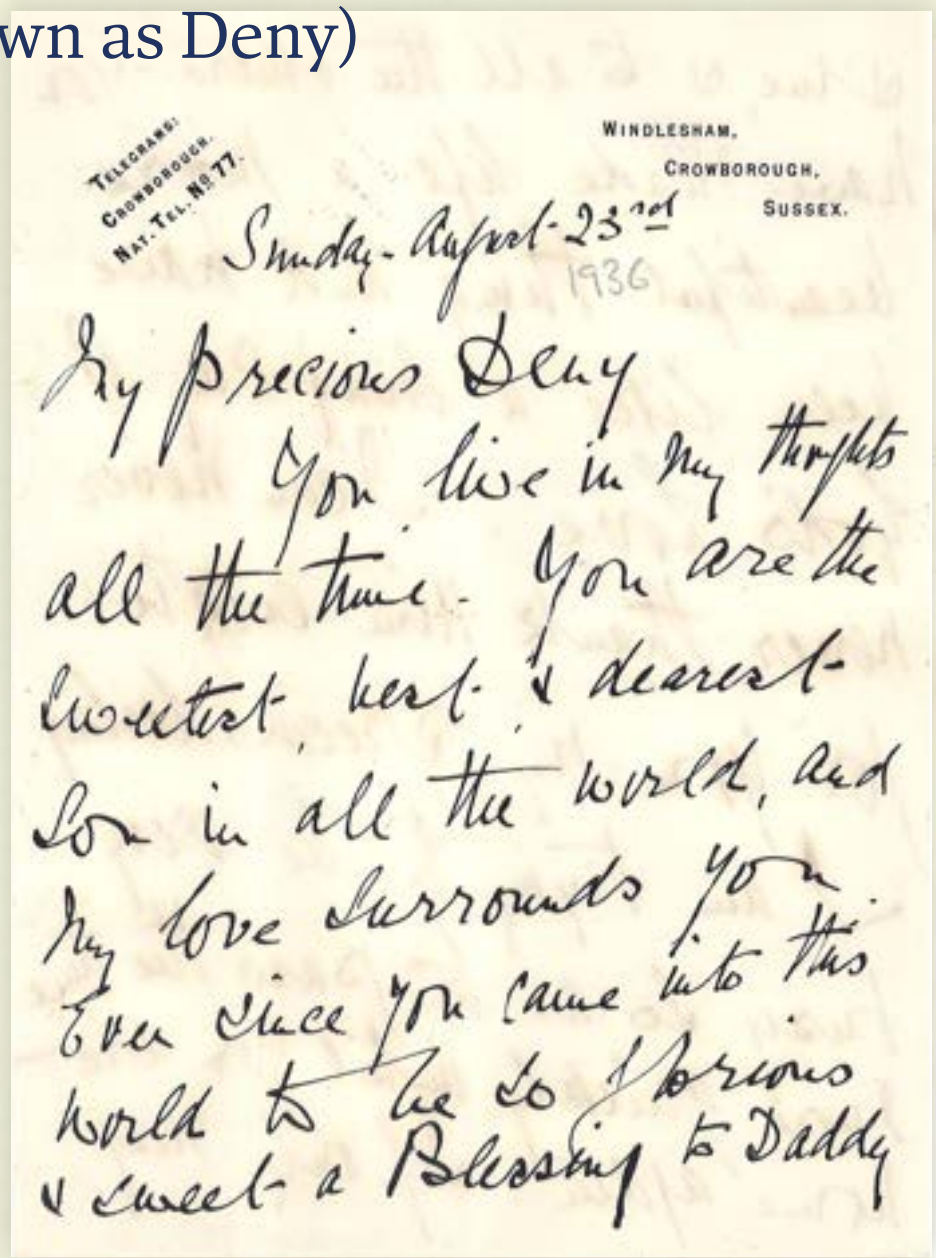
Roger Casement was a diplomat and Irish nationalist. During World War 1, he sought assistance from the Germans for Ireland to regain independence. He was arrested in 1916 for high treason and espionage against the Crown and was hanged a few months later. His death was on 3rd August 1916, at the age of 51.

*A lunatic Irish Patriot
Who associated with Germans
Faced the cold-blooded execution,
Of a misguided goodness.
At a time when people killed in shoals
- Bryan Woods*

LOVE And FAMILY

"You are ever in my thoughts"

Arthur Conan Doyle had a large family - 8 siblings, 2 wives and 5 children! There are many letters in the archives from Doyle's second wife, Jean, to their eldest son Denis (otherwise known as Deny)



Sunday - August 23rd (1936)

My precious Deny

You live in my thoughts all the time. You are the sweetest, best and dearest son in all the world, and my love surrounds you. Ever since you came into this world to be so glorious & sweet a blessing to Daddy and me...



She put her hands to her mouth and started praying...

My dear darling. My mind is on higher things at the moment. You are ever in my thoughts. You're loving and kind hearted, the most sweetest baby in the world. I thank God every night for blessing me with you. Things might look like they are too hard to handle, but life has its reasons. If only my body was stronger. I wish I could stay with you forever, but time can choose a different path. My darling. You are in my thoughts always. I often kiss your pillow night. The first step is the worst for everyone. I can't wait to see you again. My darling baby.

Until we meet again.

- Molly Hider

THE LOST WORLD

The background features a collage of dinosaur silhouettes and a Tyrannosaurus Rex. At the top, the title 'THE LOST WORLD' is written in large, stylized letters with a distressed, white texture. The letters are set against a background of various colors: 'T' is blue, 'H' is white, 'E' is yellow, 'L' is white, 'O' is red, 'S' is white, 'T' is yellow, 'W' is blue, 'O' is red, 'R' is white, 'L' is blue, and 'D' is red. Below the title, the background is a collage of dinosaur silhouettes and a Tyrannosaurus Rex. The silhouettes include a long-necked sauropod, a triceratops, and a T-Rex. The T-Rex is in the foreground, looking towards the right. The background is a sunset or sunrise sky with a warm orange and yellow glow. The entire scene is framed by a torn paper effect, with white, jagged edges separating the different elements.

“When you have eliminated all which is impossible, then whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.”

Conan Doyle is well known as the creator of Sherlock Holmes, but he also wrote another world-famous book - "The Lost World". This story was the first in the Professor Challenger Series and was the inspiration for the Jurassic Park films.



A close-up photograph of a man dressed as Sherlock Holmes. He is wearing a brown deerstalker hat and a tan trench coat. He is holding a magnifying glass over his right eye, which is enlarged and focused on the viewer. In his left hand, he holds a dark pipe. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

SHERLOCK HOLMES

**“Education never ends, Watson.
It is a series of lessons, with the greatest for the last.”**



Arthur Conan Doyle's most famous Creation!

The first story featuring Sherlock Holmes was published in 1887. Conan Doyle killed off his character just 6 years later in 1893 before bringing him back in 1903 due to public outcry - including from his mother!

The first Sherlock Holmes film was released in 1916 and there are still films, TV shows and games being made today that feature the famous detective.

OUR THOUGHTS

When I was asked why I like Conan Doyle I responded with:

“He is an inspiration. He has done so much with his life like writing, doctor, he was in the war. He also never let people get in between his beliefs - he stood up for what he believes. He inspires me to do the same. There are so many people out there that think people like me are not normal. Living with this my whole life I decided to stand up for those who can't and show the world that even though we are different we bring more light to the world than people think. I now hold my head high. Just like Conan Doyle did. In *The Detectives*, even though we are all different we help each other reach our goals.”

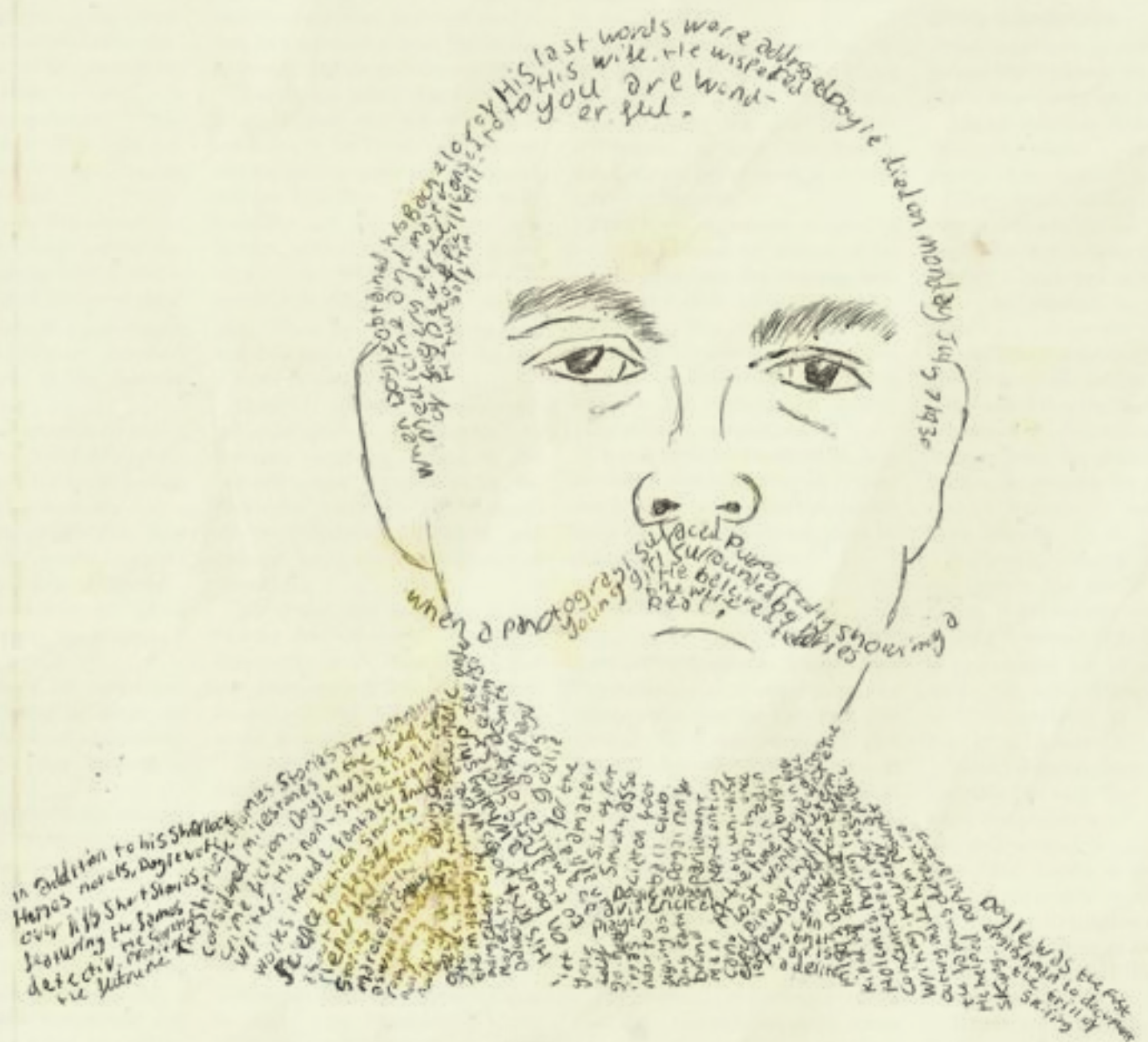
- Molly Hider

“This Zine is a collection of images, poems and quotes that have been reinterpreted from archives in the Conan Doyle Collection, with particular focus on the letters. Using pen, pencil, scissors, glue and our bare hands. We have created our own mini collection that is this ‘Zzeen’.

We first had to look through the archives digital catalogue and select items to look at. The archivist brought the original letters from Conan Doyle and other family members out of the stores for us to handle and read. Next was the difficult job of interpreting the old handwriting and transcribing it. We typed up the letters and printed them out. Working with Tom we cut out words and phrases of interest to us to create entirely new ‘found’ poems. We all used different themes from our research to inspire us. We also made collages that communicate these themes. We have also included copies of the original letters, other archive images, representations of our interests in pop culture and some original artwork of Conan Doyle in our own style.

We hope you have enjoyed what we have created and meshed together.”

- The Detectives



by Molly Hider

STEEL

TRUE,

BLADE

STRAIGHT

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
1859-1930

goodbye to the moment
your precious face
again.
your beloved face
again
until I see God



The Conan Doyle Collection, bequeathed to the City of Portsmouth by Richard Lancelyn Green, brings together an unparalleled variety of books, documents and objects connected to Holmes and the life of his creator. An archive research centre is available in the city's Central Library which allows access to Richard's amazing collection. At Portsmouth City Museum there are many extraordinary items from the collection within the exhibition 'A Study In Sherlock', situated on the ground floor, including unique photographs, film posters, and letters from the influential and the famous.

Images and text by The Conan Doyle Collection's Detectives with support from Central Library, Portsmouth

Visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/the-detectives

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For more information email Sherlock.Holmes@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

 **Conan Doyle's Casebook**

 **Thearthurconandoylcollection**

 **Sherlock_pompey**