



Pink 'Un



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The Hansom Wheels Website (which includes *The Pink 'Un*): <http://www.hansomwheels.com>

“When you see a man with whiskers of that cut and the ‘**Pink 'Un**’ protruding out of his pocket, you can always draw him by a bet”—
Sherlock Holmes, “The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle”

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I Find It Recorded in My Notebook . . .

The Hansom Wheels met at The Palmetto Club on October 19. We were graced with the presence of sixteen of our members: **Richard Blenko, Mary Dematteis, Kay Hensley, Becky and Kevin Lewis, George and Sarah Linder, Jamie McCulloch, Allison McNeely, Pat McNeely, Jerred Metz, Julie Smoak, Monte Steedley, Twyla Tuten, Barbara Yongue, and Your Editor, Phil Dematteis aka The Tantalus aka me.** We also had some members who had either moved away from Columbia, or had never lived here (everybody on our email list is a member), or just couldn't make it in person, attending via Zoom. They included **Carlina de la Cova, Jennie Paton, Wayne Scott, Brenda Rossini, Lee Shackelford, and Don Mankowski.** There were some others whose names, but not faces, appeared on the screen, but they were aliases that I didn't recognize.

After dinner, I announced that the game was afoot; we toasted *the* woman, Irene Adler, and did the responsive reading of The Musgrave Ritual. We then moved to the Happy Hour Posers, where the object is to deduce the titles of Holmes stories from a series of puns: 1. It's a very distinguished, high-class collection of traditional stories = the noble batch o' lore = “The Noble Bachelor,” the Assigned Story for the evening. 2. My employer wants to know what his manservant has done with his grooming tool = the boss comb valet mystery = “The Boscombe Valley Mystery.” 3. Donald Trump = “The Yellow Face.” 4. They remodeled the Pyncheon home in Salem and took off four of the triangular roof ends, leaving only ... = “The Three Gables.”

The Featured Presentation, via Zoom from Chicago, was “Is Sherlock Holmes a Foodie?” by **Linda Crohn**, a retired lawyer and member of the Torists International Scion Society. She began by defining a “foodie” as

someone who has a particular interest in food; has an avid interest in the latest food fads; eats at a lot of restaurants and tries a variety of dishes; enjoys shopping for food; is willing to try all kinds of food; knows which wines to pair with which meats or fish; and reads food magazines. She noted that according to John Bennett Shaw in *Alimentary, My Dear Watson*, meals or specific food items are mentioned 198 times in the Canon; drinks (wine, beer, tea, water, and Watson's medicinal brandy) 75 times; breakfast 73 times; lunch 30; high tea 3 (although **Linda** herself found 5 mentions); dinner or supper 58 times. Going outside of the Canon, **Linda** described how the various meals differed between the rich, the middle class, and the poor; the poor generally ate dirt at all three meals and washed it down with horse urine (just kidding; she didn't say that). There are references to 9 restaurants, including Goldini's in “The Bruce-Partington Plans,” Marcini's in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, and Simpson's in the Strand in “The Illustrious Client” and “The Dying Detective.” In spite of all of this chowing down, she concluded that Holmes was *not* a foodie: in “The Second Stain” he devours sandwiches at irregular hours; in “The Dying Detective” he says that he hasn't touched food or drink in three days; in “The Mazarin Stone” he tells Mrs. Hudson he will dine “at 7:30 the day after tomorrow.” **Linda** decided that he was also not a *gourmet*—a food connoisseur—but a *gourmand*: one who is interested in good food and drink. Now we know.

We brought the proceedings to a conclusion with our usual group recitation of the Sacred Sonnet, “221B,” and even though we had had a big meal at the beginning of the meeting, we went home to raid our refrigerators because we were hungry all over again after all this talk about food. And I'm hungry right now just from remembering it.

For December: Compliments of the Season!

You are good-looking, intelligent, and talented. OK, there are your compliments. Now, down to business: The Hansom Wheels Christmas Party will begin at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, December 7** (Pearl Harbor Day), at **The Palmetto Club**, 1231 Sumter Street. There will be Christmas music, fabulous door prizes provided by **Richard Blenko**, and a play: **Bob Robinson's** adaptation of *The Speckled Band*. The price for dinner will be **\$35.00** per person; wine, beer, whiskey, gin, rum, vodka, brandy, and absinthe—well, probably not absinthe—will be available for an extra charge. If you have not already made your reservation(s), please be

doin' that by emailing hansomwheels@aol.com by **12:00 noon on Monday, December 4**. If you have made a reservation and find that you will not be able to attend, **please cancel no later than noon on that same Monday, December 4**; we will be charged for all the meals we have ordered by that day, whether they are eaten or not. Therefore, if you cancel after the deadline or just don't show up, we will politely ask you to pay that \$35.00 (\$70.00 for a couple) as a forfeiture fee. If you don't, we will politely ask you again, but this time we'll be holding a blackjack. See you there!

Photos from the October Meeting
Courtesy of Richard Blenko



The Tantalus toasting *the* woman



Kevin and Becky Lewis



Jamie McCulloch



Jerred Metz



Twyla Tuten and Monte Steedley



Sarah and George Linder



Julie Smoak



Pat and Allison McNeely

(Actually, that's Allison from a previous meeting, because we didn't get a photo this time)



Kay Hensley and Barbara Yongue



Richard Blenko with my wife,
Mary Dematteis (wait ... what?!)



Our speaker, Linda Crohn



The opening slide



A “full English breakfast” (jeepers!)



High tea