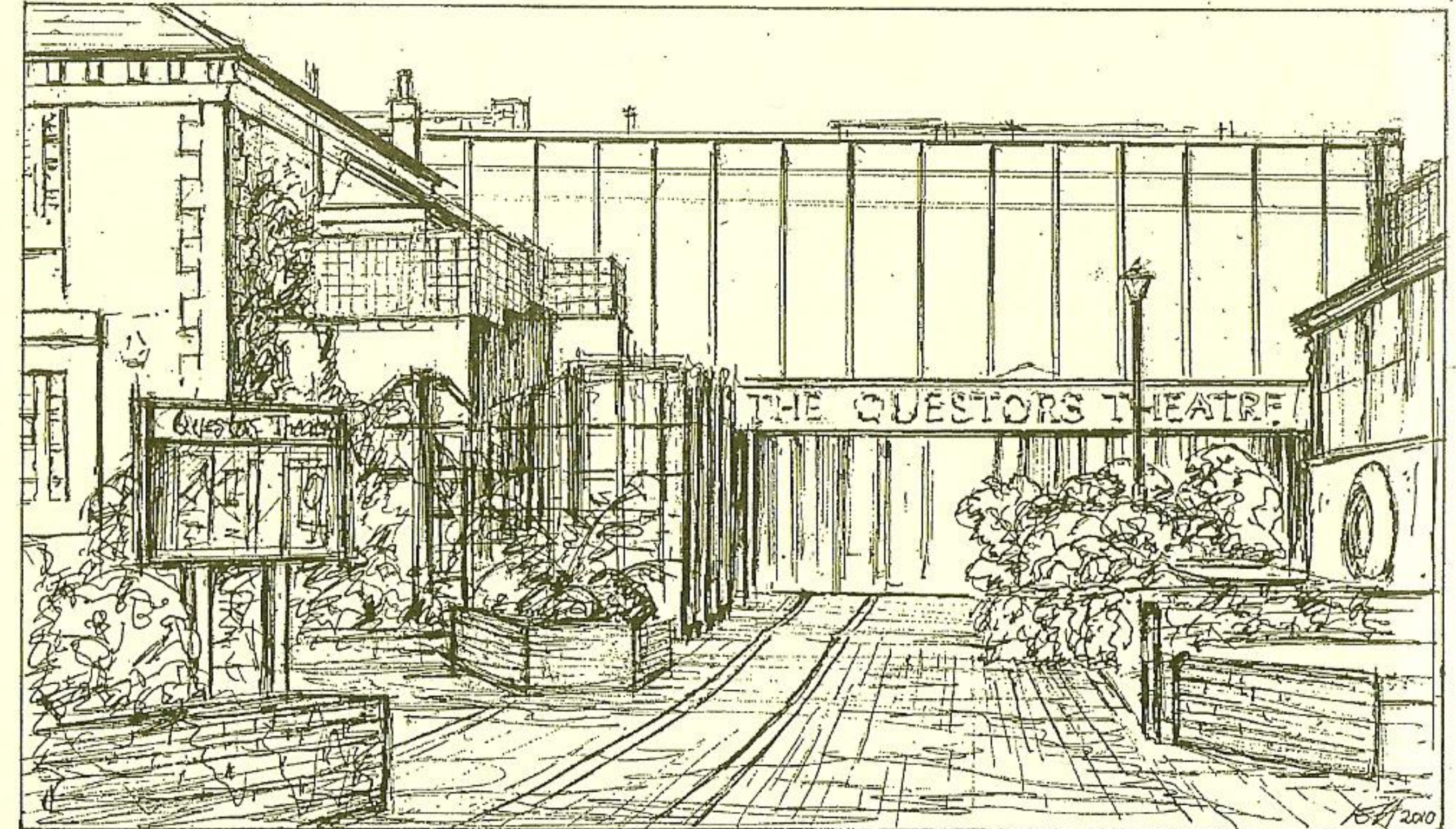




Questors, Ealing's Theatre



THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

adapted by Steven Canny and John Nicholson for Peepolykus

The Playhouse

28 September – 5 October 2013

Qafé

Pop in for lunch or an afternoon snack – serving specialist teas and coffees, hot chocolate and soft drinks, with a selection of sandwiches cut to order.

Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 11:30 am – 7:00 pm*

Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

**last orders for food at 6:30 pm*

For Playhouse productions:

Hot meal menu up to 6:30 pm followed by drinks, ice creams and snacks through the first interval.

The Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to Members and Friends of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as audience members on show nights.

The club is open seven nights a week and Sunday lunchtimes and is managed and staffed entirely by volunteers.

We are the proud holders of a Cask Marque award for the quality of our real ales, we appear in the 2014 edition of The Good Beer Guide and we are **CAMRA West Middlesex Club of the Year**. A choice of at least three real ales is usually available, including Fuller's London Pride. We also provide a range of draught lagers and ciders, as well as wines and spirits – all at very reasonable prices.

Opening Hours:

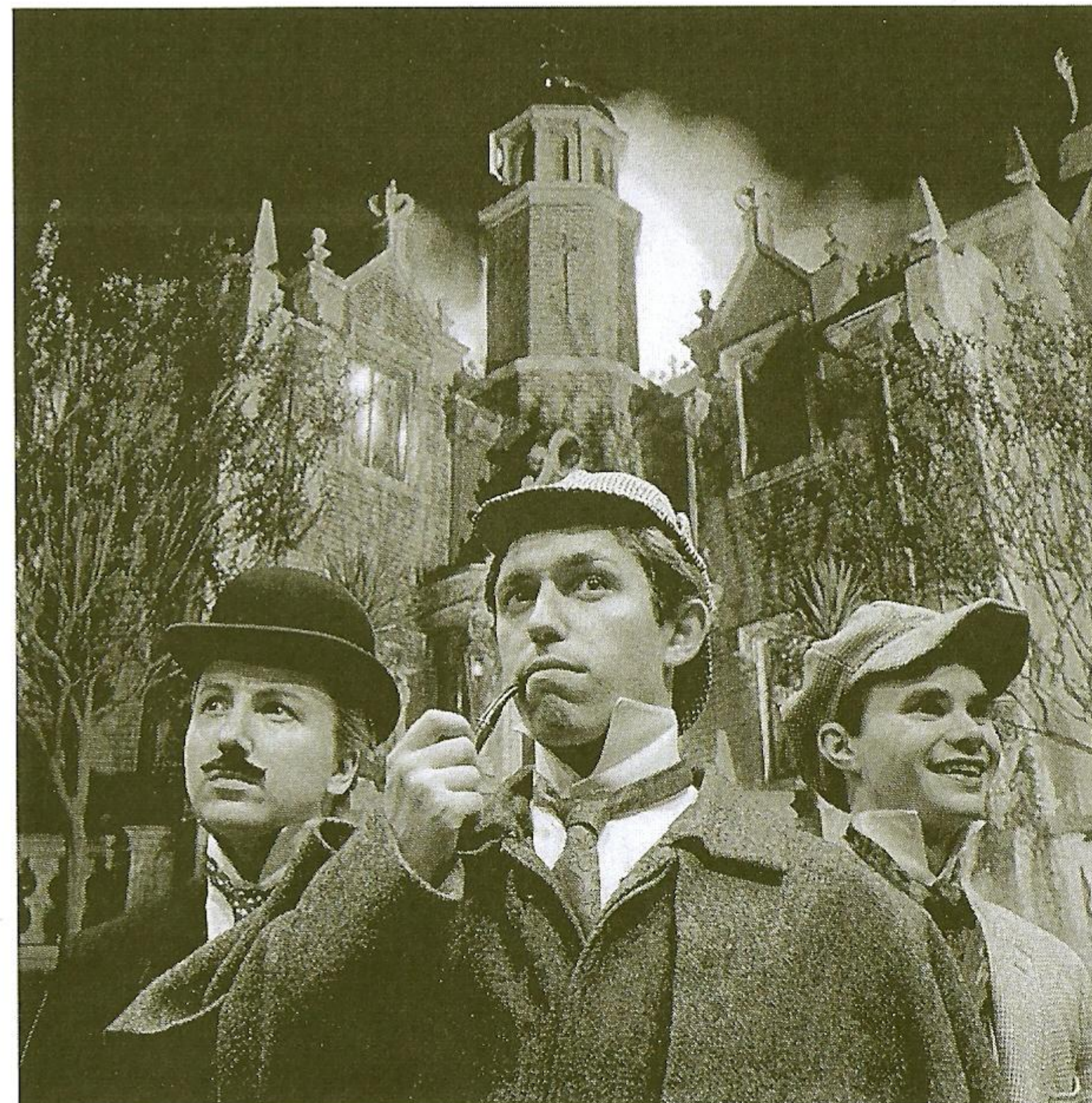
7:00 pm – 11:00 pm (10:30 pm close on Sundays)

Sunday lunchtime: midday – 2:30 pm

Annual Beer Festival: Thursday 24 to Saturday 26 October

See questors.org.uk/grapevine for more details

Neither the Qafé nor the Grapevine
is able to accept credit or debit cards.



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The Hound of the Baskervilles

In December 1893, Arthur Conan Doyle released what he planned to be his last Sherlock Holmes story, *The Final Problem*. In this story, Holmes plunged to his death over the Reichenbach Falls in a fight with his arch-nemesis, Moriarty. So began what some refer to as the Great Hiatus, a period of nearly a decade when Conan Doyle let Holmes rest.

During this time, public pressure came to bear on Conan Doyle to write more Holmes stories and he finally acquiesced. The first story out of this period was a novel: *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. *Hound* was serialised in *The Strand Magazine* from August 1901 through to April 1902. While this was written some eight years after *The Final Problem*, it is set before the story in terms of Holmes' history. *Hound* was hugely successful and led to Conan Doyle's eventual revival of the series and in 1904 a set of short stories entitled *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* was published with Holmes' 'death' explained in *The Adventure of the Empty House*.

In more recent times, *The Hound of the Baskervilles* has regularly topped the polls as the most popular of all the Holmes stories and in 2003 it was listed at number 128 out of 200 in the BBC's *The Big Read* poll.

The Peepolykus Adaptation

This adaptation of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* was committed to paper by Steven Canny and John Nicholson as the result of extensive improvisation sessions with the three-man theatre company, Peepolykus (pronounced 'people like us', of course), famed for its trademark verbal and physical ingenuity. To quote Steven Canny, "Before we wrote a word we worked with the brilliant company Peepolykus: improvising, trying, messing up, trying again,

Meet the Company – Wednesday 2 October

Come and meet the director, cast and crew for an informal discussion in the Upper Foyer as soon as possible after the Wednesday performance.

improvising some more, putting on silly wigs, getting stuck, and debating where the humour lay. Then, as we wrote some words down we tried them out again." The first production was for the West Yorkshire Playhouse and development rehearsals were held in their props stores which led to the use of a great number of obscure props. The resulting play went on to a national tour, ending in 2007 at the West End's Duchess Theatre, to great acclaim.

This adaptation certainly tells the key story of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, but with a few notable exceptions. The character of Laura Lyons is cut from the story entirely. Essentially, she was used to lure Sir Charles Baskerville onto the moor and is a red herring in the novel. Our production has made other changes, primarily to deal with the fact that the original Peepolykus adaptation had a Spanish actor playing Holmes (and many of the other, mostly female, characters as well) who (by and large) all ended up with Spanish accents, of which much was made in the original production. So, for example the Stapletons are not middle class and (in order to help differentiate them as characters) the Barrymores are not as local as in the original version. You may also notice that our cast includes a female actor, which enables us to depart in different directions. However that's been one of the joys of working on an adaptation of this style – you've the flexibility to play!

Simon Rudkin, Director

Next Questors Productions

BETRAYAL

by Harold Pinter

4 – 12 October 2013

The Studio

Pinter's drama expertly dissects a triangular relationship, starting with its end and then spiralling back in time. A drama of betrayal: sexual betrayal, betrayal of friendship, betrayal of ideals, and betrayal of memory.

HOUSE & GARDEN

by Alan Ayckbourn

30 October – 9 November 2013

The Playhouse and the Studio

Two comedies performed simultaneously, one in the Playhouse and one in the Studio, with the actors moving between the two plays. Classic Ayckbourn comedy to leave you with a big smile.

THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, adapted by Steven Canny and John Nicholson for Peepolykus

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 28 September 2013

CAST

in order of appearance

Nick Thomas	Sir Charles Baskerville, Himself, Dr Mortimer, Sir Henry Baskerville, Yokel(s), Wise Yokel
Lydia King	Herself, Dr Watson, Yokel
Alex Cummings	Himself, Holmes, Train Guard, Scary Old Lady, Crazy Yokel, Cecile, Stapleton, Barrymore, Mrs Barrymore

The performance lasts approximately two hours including a 15-minute interval.

Please turn off all mobile phones and similar electronic devices.
The use of cameras, video cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thank you.

PRODUCTION

Director	Simon Rudkin
Set Designer	Philip Lindley
Costume Designer	Sarah Andrews
Lighting Designer	Ben Sandford
Sound Designer / Operator	Christopher Smith
Stage Manager	Adrian
Assistant Stage Managers	Ed Bazys, Vivian O'Donnell, Rosemary Rose, Alex
Properties	Fallon Lee
Choreographer	Harriet Dennant
Lighting Operator	Cecily Johnson
Lighting Assistants	Tim Edwards, Richard Mead
Costume Assistants	Mary Davis, Helen Karasiewicz, Tilly Reid
Constructors	Toby Burbidge, Philip Lindley
Photographer	Peter Collins
Thanks to	Ben Lawson, Jon Webster, Nigel Worsely, House Services, The Questors Grapevine Club, The Questors Office, The Questors Cat

Biographies

Alex Cummings – *Sherlock Holmes and others*

Alex trained in Student Groups 64 and 65, graduating in 2012 in *Doña Rosita the Spinster & Yerma*. This is his second season as an acting member at The Questors and he has previously appeared in *Night of the Soul*, *Business*, *After October*, *Mary Stuart* and both *24-Hour Plays*. He is also a tutor in the Questors Youth Theatre and is currently teaching Years 7, 8 and 9.

Lydia King – *Dr Watson and others*

Lydia tried valiantly to grow her own moustache for the show but was unsuccessful. She wants to thank her stunt moustache, Clive, for his sterling work during the run. Last seen in *Sweeney Todd*, Lydia is happy to be back at The Questors, particularly as this time she has a gun.

Nick Thomas – *the Baskervilles and others*

Nick has not performed at The Questors since playing a woman in *Mercury Fur* in 2007, and is very pleased to return to the stage in such magnificent manly trousers. He is a great lover of comedy and Sherlock Holmes, so much so that he is playing neither Holmes nor Watson.

Simon Rudkin – *Director*

Simon joined The Questors in Student Group 61, since when he's acted in a variety of shows – notably playing Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast* and Willmore in *The Rover* (touring to the Minack in Cornwall and to Slovenia). Simon began to direct in October 2011 with *Criminal Genius* (as part of *Suburban Motel*), followed by *Dealer's Choice* (April 2012) and *Absurd Person Singular* (December 2012). Simon also founded The Errors of Comedy – the Questors resident sketch group.

The Questors presents for Christmas

ALADDIN AND HIS WONDERFUL LAMP

by Richard Gallagher

14 December to 4 January

Join us for this entertaining panto specially written for both young and old.

BOOK NOW

Sarah Andrews – *Costume Designer*

Sarah joined The Questors in 1977 as a member of Student Group 32 and since graduating has appeared in many plays, most recently *The Comedy of Errors*. Sarah has designed and dressed a countless number of shows, most recently *The Winslow Boy*, *The Talented Mr Ripley*, *Hobson's Choice*, *Dublin Carol*, *A Flea in Her Ear*, *The Libertine*, *The Rover*, *The Accrington Pals*, *The Comedy of Errors* and *A Christmas Carol*.

Philip Lindley – *Set Designer*

Although trained as an architect, Philip began his theatre career as a set and lighting designer before joining the BBC TV Design Department, where he worked for 25 years on every type of production. After leaving the BBC he worked as a freelance theatre consultant before moving to Lisbon where he continued to design sets and lighting for Portuguese theatre. Since returning to live in the UK in 2011, he has designed for Barons Court Theatre, Teatro Technis, Bridewell Theatre, Union Theatre, Finborough Theatre and The Scoop. For The Questors he has designed *The Winterling*, *Titus Andronicus*, *Ladies' Day*, *Annie*, *Greek*, *Present Laughter*, *Night of Soul*, *Blue Remembered Hills*, *Mary Stuart* and *ENRON*. Philip is Associate Designer at The Finborough Theatre and Resident Designer and Production Consultant at Arion Productions.

Ben Sandford – *Lighting Designer*

Ben's recent credits at The Questors include lighting designer for *Othello*, *Suburban Motel* and *On the Razzle*, sound designer for *Coarse Shakespeare – The Final Folio*, and technical director for *The Flint Street Nativity*. Ben currently serves as production director for The Questors and is a member of the Board of Trustees. He was chosen as the Technician of the Year 2013 by The Association of British Theatre Technicians.

Christopher Smith – *Sound Designer*

Christopher has always been interested in technical theatre, and started working with lighting at high school. His first opportunity to work with sound was *Alarms and Excursions* by Michael Frayn, with the St. Mary's Players. Recently he wanted to get back into theatre and got the opportunity through the sound department at The Questors, with help and advice from Paul Wilson and Alan Smith for which he is very grateful.

The Sherlock Holmes Canon

The canon contains (primarily) four novels and five collections of short stories (56 in total) released between 1887 and 1927.

- A Study in Scarlet (1887)**
- The Sign of the Four (1890)**
- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (1892):**
 - A Scandal in Bohemia
 - The Adventure of the Red-Headed League
 - A Case of Identity
 - The Boscombe Valley Mystery
 - The Five Orange Pips
 - The Man with the Twisted Lip
 - The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle
 - The Adventure of the Speckled Band
 - The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb
 - The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor
 - The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet
 - The Adventure of the Copper Beeches
- The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes (1893):**
 - Silver Blaze
 - The Adventure of the Cardboard Box
 - The Adventure of the Yellow Face
 - The Adventure of the Stockbroker's Clerk
 - The Adventure of the Gloria Scott
 - The Adventure of the Musgrave Ritual
 - The Adventure of the Reigate Squire
 - The Adventure of the Crooked Man
 - The Adventure of the Resident Patient
 - The Adventure of the Greek Interpreter
 - The Adventure of the Naval Treaty
 - The Final Problem
- The Hound of the Baskervilles (1902)**
- The Return of Sherlock Holmes (1904):**
 - The Adventure of the Empty House
 - The Adventure of the Norwood Builder
 - The Adventure of the Dancing Men
 - The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist
 - The Adventure of the Priory School
 - The Adventure of Black Peter
 - The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton
 - The Adventure of the Six Napoleons
 - The Adventure of the Three Students
 - The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez
 - The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter
 - The Adventure of the Abbey Grange
 - The Adventure of the Second Stain
- The Valley of Fear (1915)**
- His Last Bow (1917):**
 - The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge
 - The Adventure of the Red Circle
 - The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans
 - The Adventure of the Dying Detective
 - The Disappearance of Lady Frances Carfax
 - The Adventure of the Devil's Foot
 - His Last Bow
- The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes (1927):**
 - The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone
 - The Problem of Thor Bridge
 - The Adventure of the Creeping Man
 - The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire
 - The Adventure of the Three Garridebs
 - The Adventure of the Illustrious Client
 - The Adventure of the Three Gables
 - The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier
 - The Adventure of the Lion's Mane
 - The Adventure of the Retired Colourman
 - The Adventure of the Veiled Lodger
 - The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place

Join Us

If you enjoy theatre, why not join us and benefit from membership:

- ✓ Half price personal tickets for Questors productions*
- ✓ Discounted Guest tickets when you bring friends to Questors productions*
- ✓ Children's FREE tickets†
- ✓ Opportunities to be actively involved in our productions
- ✓ Allowed to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ Access to *iQ* – the members-only website members.questors.org.uk
- ✓ A full-colour members' magazine three times a year
- ✓ Access to exclusive news on *iQ* and email newsletter
- ✓ Monthly programme card
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club
- ✓ Voting rights in the company

*Reduced prices exclude certain events. †Under 18 only, maximum four per event. Must be collected at the performance and accompanied by an adult member.

Introductory offer – as a welcome for first-time members, get your first 12 months' membership for the price of six.

Getting the most from your membership

We have a wide range of opportunities for you to become actively involved front-of-house or backstage. Volunteer help is always needed for selling programmes or stewarding, and training is provided if you'd like to work in Box Office with our computerised system. To meet members in a social setting, volunteer to help behind the Grapevine bar. Backstage staff including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, sound and light designers and operators, painters, wardrobe and costume and set designers are always welcomed; whatever your skills, we'll find a place for you. We also have courses for those wishing to direct.

The Questors has a high standard of acting and, to maintain this, everyone wanting to act must first take an audition. These are held every month – call the Theatre Office for details of forthcoming auditions.

The Questors Youth Theatre – QYT

Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 16. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages at weekday teatime. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! Details are online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

Cover Image: Elaine Hagan

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