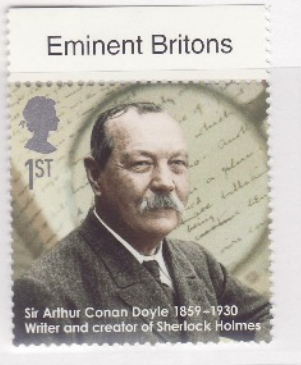


The Death of Doyle's Detective

Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle was born on May 22nd 1859 in Edinburgh to a prosperous Irish Catholic family. The young Arthur was very close to his mother who told him exciting stories. His father was a moderately successful artist who later became an alcoholic.



Stamps depicting Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Conan Doyle, wishing to be recognised for his more serious works, was never happy that public affection for Sherlock Holmes detracted from these. As such in 1893 he wrote "The Final Problem" in which he killed off Sherlock Holmes and arch enemy, Moriarty, who together plunged over the Reichenbach Falls.



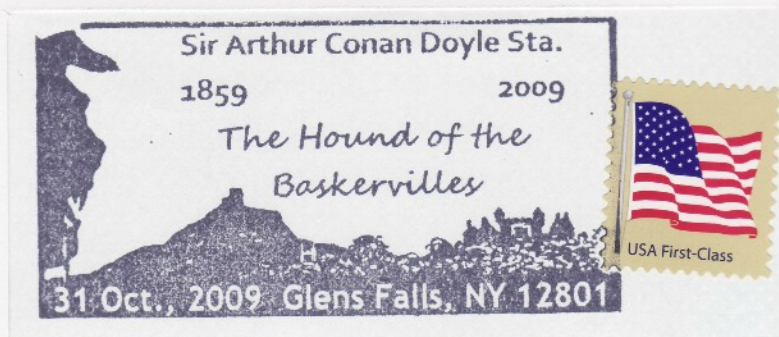
Stamp Booklet for "The Final Problem"



Swiss stamp depicting the actual Falls with book reference overprint



When Sherlock Holmes was "killed off" over 20,000 people cancelled their subscriptions to "The Strand Magazine". Due mainly to financial reasons Conan Doyle resurrected Holmes and published "The Hound of the Baskervilles" in 1901



A selection of 'Hound' related items including USA postmark and a private mail label



"Look Watson, giant paw prints!"

