

# 2025 Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual: Call for Submissions!

The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota publishes a Christmas Annual which has gained international recognition within the Sherlockian community. Every year our members are challenged to submit original works based on a topic we hope will inspire their creativity. We are proud to assemble these submissions and distribute the new issue every year to attendees of our organization's annual dinner in December, and additional copies are made available to interested Sherlockians around the world. This year, we are pleased to announce that the theme for the 2025 Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual is:

## “HOLMES IN MOTION”

Transportation plays a significant role in the Sherlock Holmes stories. Travel by train to adventures away from London is an iconic scene for our heroes, as are rides in hansom cabs, or going out for a stroll. The stories also involve a fair number of ships, bicycles, and even the Underground, which — though seldom mentioned — was readily available. Another way we find Holmes in motion is through performance, be it on stage, television, or motion pictures. The Christmas Annual for this year will explore a wide avenue of possible topics derived from locomotion in the sixty Canonical tales, or presentations on stage and screen. We are looking for articles, pastiches, poems, puzzles, or artwork exploring anything from a specific way Holmes or Watson may have travelled, something about transportation in the Victorian era in general, or the way we remember the characters from performances over the years. However Holmes manages to move us, we want you to share it!

### Suggested Categories for Submissions (2500 word maximum):

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Article or essay              | 5. Joke                   |
| 2. Poem                          | 6. Illustration / Artwork |
| 3. Cartoon                       | 7. Quiz / Puzzle          |
| 4. Sherlockian or Doylean review | 8. Pastiche               |

### Rules for Submissions:

1. You must be a member of The Norwegian Explorers (local or corresponding). If you are not yet a member, a link to our membership form is located on our website: [www.norwegianexplorers.org](http://www.norwegianexplorers.org)
2. Entries must be received no later than **Friday, September 5, 2025**.
3. Submit electronic versions of papers (Microsoft Word preferred) by emailing [ray@PULPlications.com](mailto:ray@PULPlications.com), with “ATTN: CHRISTMAS ANNUAL” as the subject line.  
You should receive a reply e-mail within two days from one of the editors, Ray Riethmeier or Phil Bergem, acknowledging the successful receipt of your submission. Please include the registration information (below) with your submission. Mailing a paper copy of your entry is not required, but if you prefer to do so, use this address: Ray Riethmeier, 12015 Townview Road, Minnetonka, MN 55343.
4. Artwork or illustrations may be submitted by PDF, JPG, or TIFF scan, or by mail (the original or a good copy). The Norwegian Explorers accept no responsibility for the safety of a submitted original illustration or cartoon.
5. All entries must be the original work of the contributor, and must not have had any prior publication.
6. Contributors with submissions published in our Christmas Annual will continue to retain all rights to have their work published elsewhere.
7. Physical entries will be returned only if return postage is provided by the contributor, or if other arrangements are made.
8. Multiple entries may be submitted for each category.



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### Registration Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_