

## Footprints on Film

by  
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### Part Three

Having ended part two with one of the worst Hound adaptations, it just so happens we begin part three with one of the best.

**1981 "Sobaka Baskerviley", or "The Hound of the Baskervilles",**  
Vasiliy Livanov as Sherlock Holmes and Vitaliy Solomin. Lenfilms (U.S.S.R.).



The Russian adaptations of Sherlock Holmes, by legendary director Igor Maslennikov, and starring the fabled Vasiliy Livanov and Vitaliy Solomin, are widely acclaimed as the finest adaptations of Conan Doyle's creation. This two hour and forty minute version of the "Hound of the Baskervilles" was put together from three episodes of that TV series and doesn't diminish that claim, but only adds to it. It rates as one of my favorite Hound adaptations. "The film has great period detail, sharp conversation, and outstanding costumes... The streets and houses of London and rural Devon have a distinctly Russian austerity, whilst the glaring placement of several red pillar boxes in the village close to Baskerville Hall (clearly to add authenticity to the settings) appear incongruous by their prominence. These aside however

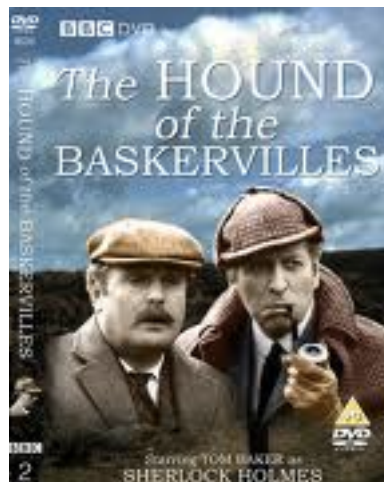
the evocation of England's wild and desolate west country, particularly Sir Henry's remote ancestral home with its baronial dinning hall surrounded by treacherous bog land, makes for a suitably feisty backdrop against which the main story plays out.”<sup>1</sup>



**Vasiliy Livanov and Vitaliy Solomin**

You can watch Livanov and Solomin in the classic Russian Hound film at:  
<http://video.kylekeeton.com/2009/01/russian-video-hound-of-baskervilles.html>

**1982 - "The Hound of the Baskervilles"**, Tom Baker as Sherlock Holmes and Terence Rigby as Dr. Watson. BBC TV (U.K.)



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<sup>1</sup> Cleaver Patterson, <http://www.cine-vue.com/2012/05/dvd-review-sherlock-holmes-hound-of.html>

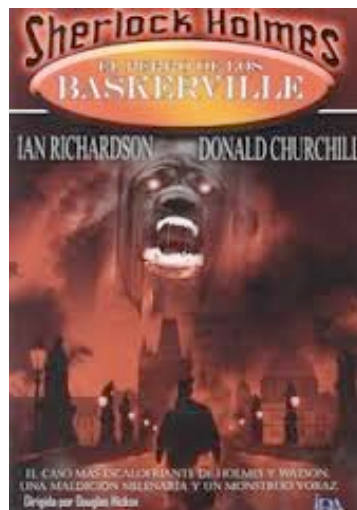
This production of Doyle's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" was the second multi-part adaptation by BBC TV, following its 1968 two-part episode with Peter Cushing. The 1982 four part serial was part of the BBC's "Sunday Classics" run of period dramas and literary adaptations. It featured Tom Baker as Sherlock Holmes, just off of his successful Dr. Who stint.



**Terence Rigby and Tom Baker**

You can watch this classic BBC Hound with Tom Baker at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tt-K5wuZGs>

**1983 - "The Hound of the Baskervilles"**, Ian Richardson as Sherlock Holmes and Donald Churchill as Dr. Watson. Mapleton Films (U.K.).



In 1982, an American producer partnered with English producer to make six television films of Sherlock Holmes stories. Only "The Sign of the Four" and "The Hound of the Baskervilles" were ultimately filmed as Granada series "Sherlock Holmes" premiered in 1984. "In an interview with 'Scarlet Street', Ian Richardson explained: 'That was the fly in our ointment. Initially, an unseen fly. You see, when Sy Weintraub was planning the films, he was unaware that the copyright on the Holmes stories was about to expire in England and he had to go through a great deal of legal negotiations with the Conan Doyle estate in order to gain permission to use them. However, he was totally ignorant of Granada's plans to film a series with Jeremy Brett...Weintraub was furious, because he'd paid a lot of money to get permission from the estate and here was Granada saying, 'Thank you - but we're going to do it.' So Weintraub took them to court. He had a very good case, apparently; but eventually there was an out of court settlement for an extraordinary sum of money - something like two million pounds - which was enough for Weintraub to cover his costs on both The Sign of Four and The Hound of the Baskervilles, and make a profit, too. And so he wrapped the project up.'<sup>2</sup>



**Donald Churchill and Ian Richardson**

Watch the Hound attack scene from the Ian Richardson-led 1983 TV movie version of Sherlock Holmes' "The Hound of the Baskervilles" at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wK6fuZiHgccc>

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<sup>2</sup> SHSL <http://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/world/irichardson.php>

**1983- "Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Curse"**, Peter O'Toole as voice of Sherlock Holmes and Ron Haddrick as voice of Dr. Watson. Burbank Films (Australia).



In this animated tale, detective Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson investigate a cursed family.



**Ron Haddrick & Peter O'Toole**

Watch the cartoon from 1983 "The Baskerville Curse", full movie at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r7M2QZoUrGk>



**1983- "The Hound of the Scoobyvilles"**, Animation, Don Messick as voice of Scooby & Scrappy-Doo and Casey Kasem as Shaggy Rogers. Hanna Barbera Studios.



"Hound of the Scoobyvilles" is the first half of the third episode of "The New Scooby and Scrappy-Doo Show". A ghostly dog is stealing all the sheep in Scotland, and Scooby is accused. The kids are headed to Barkerville Hall in Scotland to figure out what is happening to the Barkerville sheep. Has the curse come true, has the Hound of the Barkervilles come, and is it Scooby, as all the town people believe?<sup>3</sup>



**Don Messick**



**Scooby-Doo**



**Casey Kasem**

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<sup>3</sup> [http://scoobydoo.wikia.com/wiki/Hound\\_of\\_the\\_Scoobyvilles](http://scoobydoo.wikia.com/wiki/Hound_of_the_Scoobyvilles)

Time now for a commercial break, please stayed tuned!

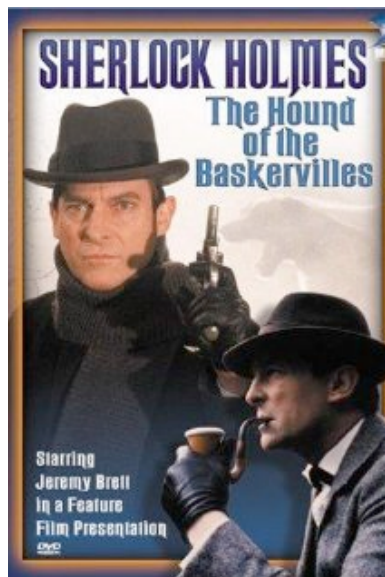
**1988 - "The Hound"**, Jeff Pillars as Sherlock Holmes and Duke Arnsbarger as Dr. Watson. Produced by Food Lion, Salisbury, NC.

Having not seen this commercial I can't comment about it, but it does exist, is 30 seconds long, and is a Hound of the Baskervilles parody.

Now back to our regular programming.

Having started part three out with the legendary Russian Holmes & Watson duo of Livanov & Solomin, let's finish part three with argumentatively another of the greatest Holmes & Watson duos of all-time Brett & Hardwicke.

**1988 - "The Hound of the Baskervilles"**, Jeremy Brett as Sherlock Holmes and Edward Hardwicke as Dr. Watson. Granada Television (U.K.)



The Granada series always attempted to be loyal to the Doyle original stories, so you know very well the plot of this one. That being the point, let's for fun point out a few inconsistencies in the final project mentioned on IMDB. "In this version of 'The Hound of the Baskervilles', Selden's braincase is held together with stitches because he has undergone a lobotomy. But that operation was not invented until the 1950s. This adaptation makes the usual error of giving Watson a Webley Mk VI .455 service revolver. Though it has the 'look' of a 19th century revolver, it was not fielded by the British

Army until 1915, almost thirty years after the story is set. When the hound attacks Selden, during the struggle there are scenes in which the victim changes from Selden to Sir Henry Baskerville. Seldon's head is shaved, while in parts of this scene, the victim obviously has a full head of hair.” Despite the greatness of Brett and Hardwicke as Holmes and Watson, I can’t rate this as one of their better efforts, nor as one of the best Hound adaptations.



**Jeremy Brett**



**Edward Hardwicke**



You can view Granada’s Hound at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKnZ8etir6E>

End of Part Three