

# 2026 Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual: Call for Submissions!

The year 2026 marks our 25th year publishing the highly-popular Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual. 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 each 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 2026 Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual is:

## “REMARKABLE WEAPONS”

Weapons are a key component of many mysteries and adventures. Sometimes a weapon is part of the backdrop of the story, sometimes it is a significant element. There are a great variety of weapons that are used or mentioned in the Sherlockian world. Some that come to mind are a multitude of firearms, an air gun, arrows, a singlestick, and a harpoon! Some of the more remarkable weapons are the snake from SPEC, and Small's wooden leg and the poison dart from SIGN. We are looking for articles, pastiches, poems, puzzles, or artwork that explore how weapons were used in the Canonical stories, pastiches, in films, on television, and in radio plays. We encourage you to take a stab at producing any of the following:

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

- |                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 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 4, 2026**.
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; but if you wish to republish it within a year of its appearance in the Christmas Annual, you must have express consent from the editors of the Christmas Annual.
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.
9. Given the increase in the number of submitted pieces, and in order to keep the size of the Annual manageable and affordable, we cannot guarantee that all submissions will be published.



---

### Registration Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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