

## Case studies from media in England

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## Sherlock star Benedict Cumberbatch is cyberstalked

Benedict Cumberbatch talks of how shocked he was when he discovered a neigh-bour was live-tweeting his movements in his London home.



Benedict Cumberbatch portrays Sherlock Holmes Photo: AP

By Tim Walker (13 Mar 2013)

It is a crime that would have been beyond the ken of even the modern-day Sherlock Holmes that he portrays on screen: cyberstalking.

Benedict Cumberbatch admits that he was sufficiently unnerved when one of his neighbours started to document his actions in his own home in real time on a social networking site this week that he felt he had no alternative but to call in the police.

"I would say that it was the strangest fan experience that I've ever had," Cumberbatch tells Mandrake. "I had someone live tweeting my movements while I was in my own house.

"It was such a strange and a direct thing to see these tweets saying what I was doing as I was doing them. I found it really worrying, and, yes, of course, very hard to deal with. I worked out after a while who it was who was doing it so, when it came to it, I didn't actually call in the police, but I was prepared to do so.

"I'm not going to say any more about it. The person concerned knows now what I felt about it. I just found it very hard to come to terms with the idea that an individual could look into my house like this, and talk about me online, and think it is a perfectly okay thing to do."

The amiable 36-year-old London-based actor says that the whole concept of celebrity and what it is resulting in worries him. "The sad thing is I don't really have anonymity any more in the UK as it has got just like it is in America," he says. "Here I get stopped quite a lot now. Sometimes it is bearable and sometimes it isn't".

 $\rightarrow \textbf{source:} \ \underline{\text{http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/9925578/Sherlock-star-Benedict-Cumberbatch-is-cyberstalked.html}$ 

