

Baker Street *Elementary*

PRESENTS
"THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON"



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THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON
065 -- A LION'S STING -- FEBRUARY, 2022



*WELCOME TO TOPIC # 065... HOLMES AND I WILL
BE LOOKING AT THE LION'S MANE, AS DESCRIBED
IN THE SHERLOCK HOLMES' STORY...*



IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE LION'S MANE,' A DYING MAN NAMED HIS KILLER, BUT IT TOOK TWO MORE VICTIMS BEFORE YOU CLEARLY IDENTIFIED THE CULPRIT.



'LION'S MANE' IS THE COMMON NAME FOR ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST VENOMOUS JELLYFISH IN THE WORLD... WHILE ITS STING IS QUITE PAINFUL, IT IS USUALLY NOT DEADLY, AND NEW RESEARCH HAS IDENTIFIED TREATMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND EFFECTIVE FOR THOSE WITHOUT UNDERLYING CONDITIONS.





WHEN FITZROY MCPHERSON DIED IN FRONT OF ME, I OBSERVED THE MAN'S BACK WAS COVERED IN RED LESIONS RESEMBLING THOSE OF A FLOGGING... I ALSO REPORTED THE MAN IN GREAT AGONY AND SPASMING BEFORE EXPIRING.





A WEEK LATER, CLOSER EXAMINATION OF THE WOUNDS INDICATED DOTS OF 'EXTRAVASATED BLOOD' – BLOOD FORCED OUT OF THE BLOOD VESSELS INTO THE SURROUNDING TISSUE.





AFTER A REVIEW OF MY 'MIND ATTIC' AND MY RETIREMENT HOME'S ACTUAL ATTIC, I UNCOVERED A BOOK OUT OF DOORS BY REV. J. G. WOOD WHO DESCRIBED HIS ENCOUNTER WITH A LION'S MANE JELLYFISH—OR MEDUSA—WHILE SWIMMING OFF THE MARGATE COAST, AND THE EXCRUCIATING PAIN OF ITS STING.



WHEN YOU RETURNED TO THE 'SCENE OF THE CRIME,' YOU POINTED OUT A SPECIMEN OF THE SEA CREATURE TO STACKHURST, MCPHERSON'S FORMER EMPLOYER, WHO PROCEEDED TO KILL IT WITH A BOULDER.



THE LION'S MANE, OR *CYANEA CAPILLATA*, IS CONSIDERED THE WORLD'S LARGEST JELLYFISH... WITH TENTACLES THAT CAN REACH UP TO 120 FEET, A MATURE LION'S MANE IS LARGER THAN A BLUE WHALE.



WHILE USUALLY SOLITARY CREATURES, THEY HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO GATHER IN CLUSTERS ALONG THE SHORELINES — PARTICULARLY ALONG THE COASTS IN THE UK AND THE NORTHWEST US.



*THEY PREFER THE COLDER WATERS OF THE ARTIC
AND NORTH PACIFIC OCEANS, LIVING ON SMALL
FISH AND OTHER SEA CREATURES.*

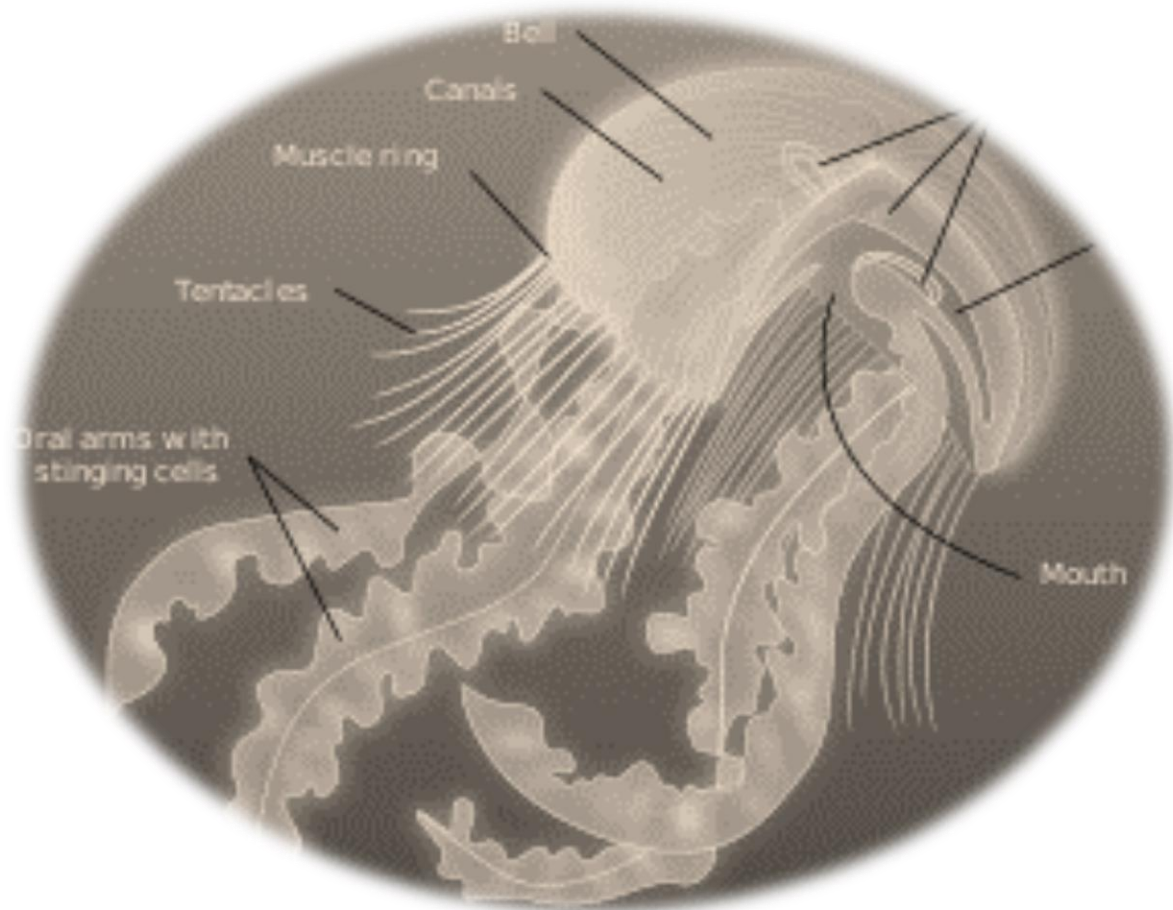




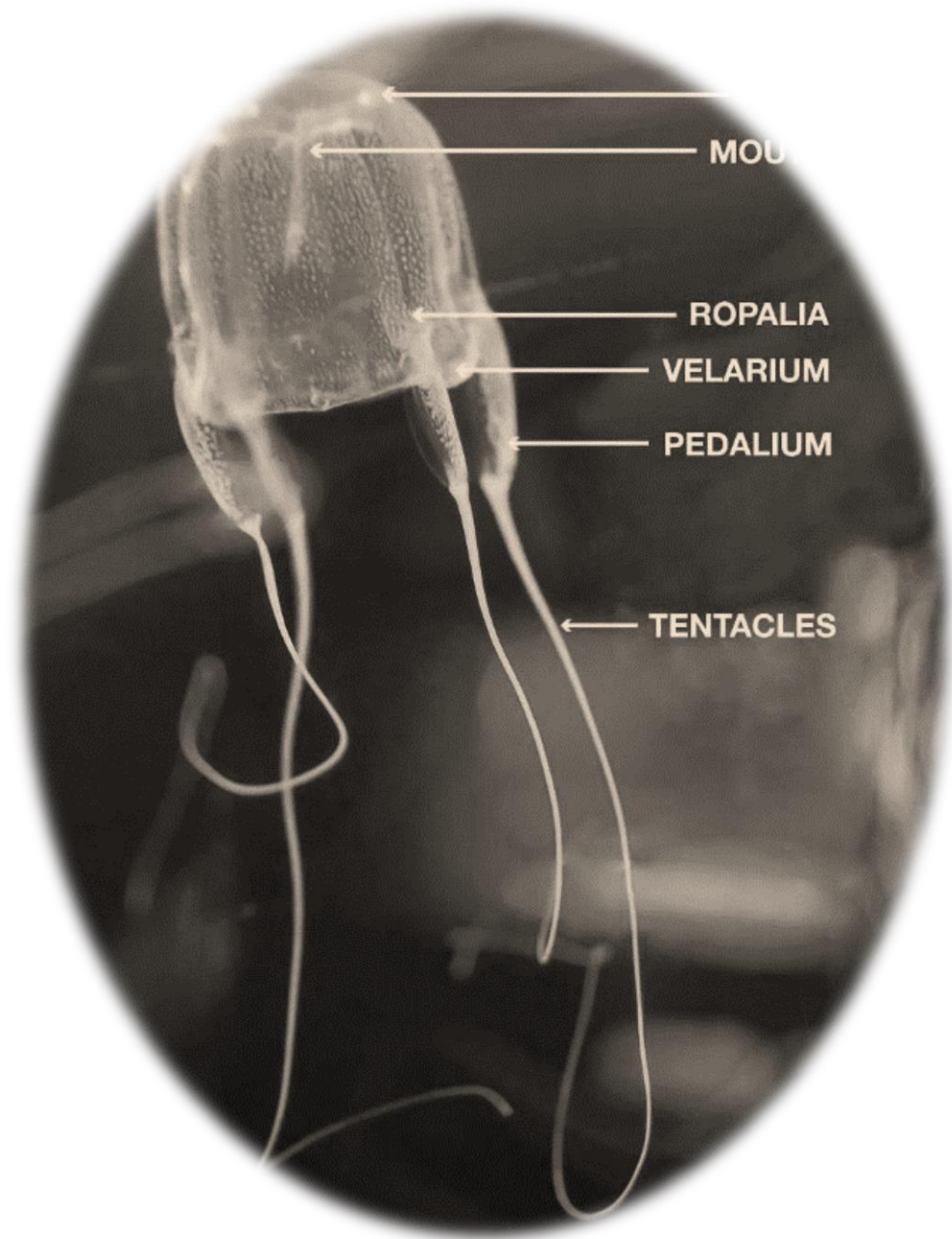
WHILE HOW A JELLYFISH ADMINISTERS POISON TO ITS VICTIMS IS KNOWN, THE VENOM'S ACTUAL MECHANISM FOR CAUSING DEATH HAS BEEN UNDER DEBATE FOR THE PAST DECADE.



**KNOWING THE PROCESS BECOMES IMPORTANT FOR KNOWING HOW TO TREAT THE STING...
JELLYFISH TENTACLES ARE IMBEDDED WITH CNIDOCYTES THAT EACH HOLD A
NEMATOCYTE (CAPSULE) WHICH HOLDS THE VENOM AND A TUBULE.**



WHEN STIMULATED, THE CNIDOCYTE ALLOWS WATER TO ENTER, OPENING THE NEMATOCYTE AND PUSHING OUT THE TUBULE UNDER THE VICTIM'S SKIN.



THE TUBULE TURNS INSIDE OUT AND RELEASES THE VENOM. HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF SUCH INJECTIONS CREATE THE RED WELTS OBSERVED ON HUMAN VICTIMS.



FOR THE LION'S MANE JELLYFISH, A STING IS RARELY FATAL, BUT WITHIN TWENTY MINUTES CAN RESULT IN 'BACK PAIN, NAUSEA, ABDOMINAL CRAMPS, SWEATING AND HYPERTENSION.'



*SOMEONE WITH AN UNDERLYING CONDITION
COULD DIE FROM ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK AND IN
RECENT YEARS SEVERAL SWIMMERS HAVE BEEN
HOSPITALIZED IN THE UK FROM ENCOUNTERS
WITH THE CREATURES.*

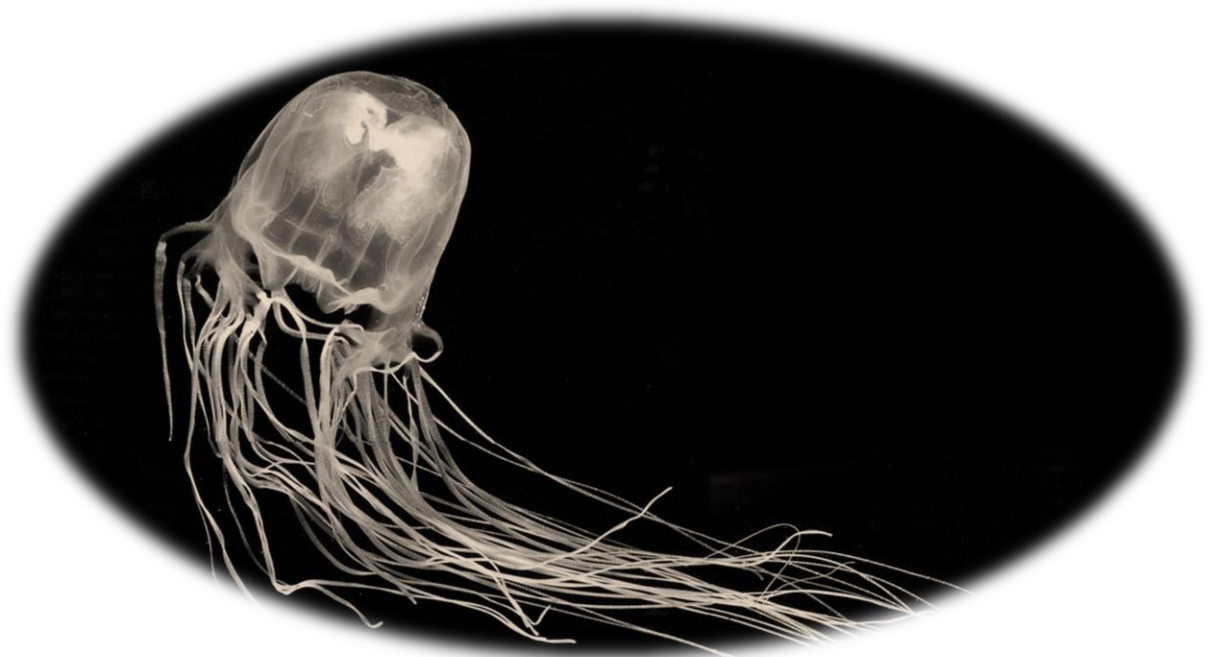




ANOTHER JELLYFISH, HOWEVER, OFFERS A MUCH MORE DEADLY STING... THE BOX JELLYFISH — FOUND IN WATERS OFF OF AUSTRALIA, MALAYSIA, THAILAND, AND THE PHILIPPINES— KILLS DOZENS EACH YEAR IN THESE COUNTRIES.



**SOME DEBATE EXISTS ABOUT HOW THE BOX
JELLYFISH'S POISON ACTUALLY AFFECTS A
VICTIM'S ORGANS, BUT REGARDLESS OF WHICH
SYSTEM IS AFFECTED FIRST, ALL CONCLUDE WITH
CARDIAC ARREST AND DEATH.**

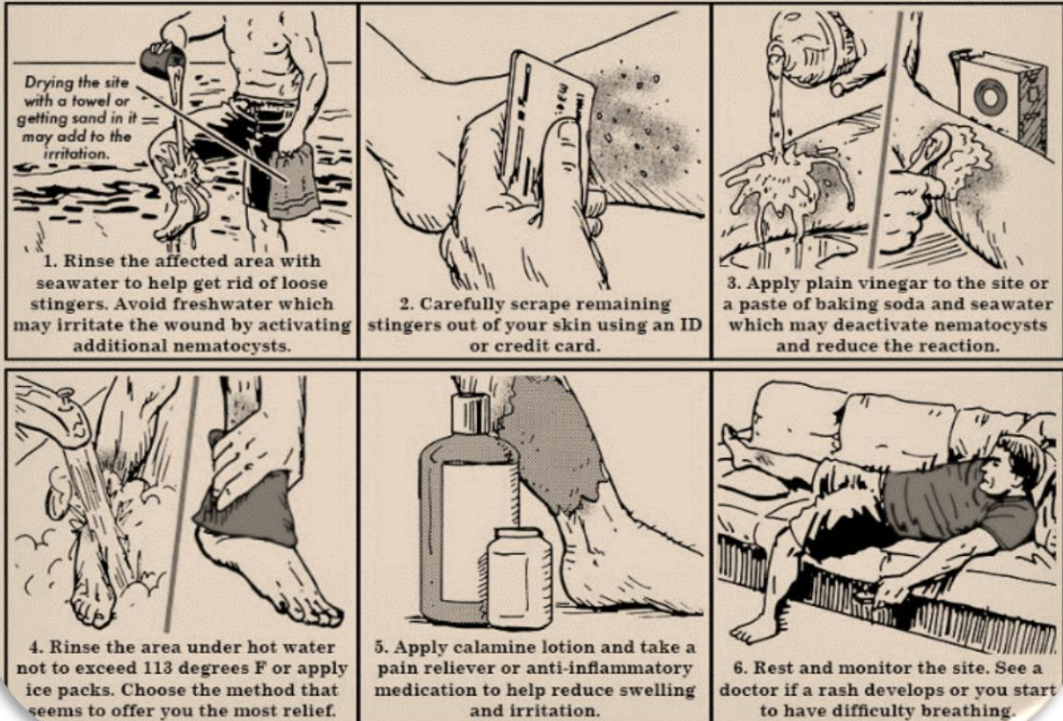


MOST EXPERTS NOW RECOMMEND RINSING THE AFFECTED AREA WITH VINEGAR TO REMOVE ANY REMAINS OF THE TENTACLES APPLYING HEAT TO THE AREA, AND USING A COPPER GLUCONATE CREAM TO INHIBIT THE VENOM.



How to Treat a Jellyfish Sting

MANLINESS



1. Rinse the affected area with seawater to help get rid of loose stingers. Avoid freshwater which may irritate the wound by activating additional nematocysts.
2. Carefully scrape remaining stingers out of your skin using an ID or credit card.
3. Apply plain vinegar to the site or a paste of baking soda and seawater which may deactivate nematocysts and reduce the reaction.
4. Rinse the area under hot water not to exceed 113 degrees F or apply ice packs. Choose the method that seems to offer you the most relief.
5. Apply calamine lotion and take a pain reliever or anti-inflammatory medication to help reduce swelling and irritation.
6. Rest and monitor the site. See a doctor if a rash develops or you start to have difficulty breathing.

**FITZROY MCPHERSON'S UNDERLYING HEART
CONDITION FROM A BOUT OF RHEUMATIC FEVER AT
A YOUNG AGE PROVED A FATAL BLOW IN HIS
ENCOUNTER WITH THE MEDUSA.**



STACKHURT'S AND MY MINISTRATIONS AND MY RESEARCH, HOWEVER, WERE ABLE TO SERVE MURDOCH, MCPHERSON'S COLLEAGUE... NOT ONLY DID I SUCCESSFULLY TREAT THE SECOND MAN'S CONTACT WITH THE JELLYFISH, BUT ALSO KEPT HIM FROM A MURDER CHARGE.





**AND, FINALLY, ELIMINATE AT LEAST ONE
SOURCE OF THE LION'S STING.**



SO, WE HAVE COMPLETED TOPIC # 065 IN OUR SERIES...

IN TOPIC # 065, WE WILL BE LOOKING AT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TELEPHONE AND TELGRAPH DURING THE VICTORIAN PERIOD.



ORIGINAL SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THIS TOPIC:

- [HTTPS://WWW.THESUN.IE/NEWS/2718688/JELLYFISH-GALWAY-LETHAL-GIANT-SWIMMERS/](https://www.thesun.ie/news/2718688/jellyfish-galway-lethal-giant-swimmers/)
- [HTTPS://MEDICAL-DICTIONARY.THEFREEDICTIONARY.COM/EXTRAVASATED](https://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/extravasated)
- J.G. WOOD, OUT OF DOORS, LONDON: LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO., 1874
- [HTTPS://OCEANA.ORG/MARINE-LIFE/CORALS-AND-OTHER-INVERTEBRATES/LIONS-MANE-JELLYFISH](https://oceana.org/marine-life/corals-and-other-invertebrates/lions-mane-jellyfish)
- [HTTPS://WWW.SCIENCEMAG.ORG/NEWS/2018/11/JELLYFISH-ALMOST-KILLED-SCIENTIST-OW-SHE-WANTS-SAVE-OTHERS-THEIR-FATAL-VENOM](https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/11/jellyfish-almost-killed-scientist-ow-she-wants-save-others-their-fatal-venom)
- [HTTPS://WWW.THESUN.IE/NEWS/2828609/JELLYFISH-EXPERTS-TIPS-LIONS-MANE-JELLYFISH-STINGS-IRISH-COASTLINES/](https://www.thesun.ie/news/2828609/jellyfish-experts-tips-lions-mane-jellyfish-stings-irish-coastlines/)
- [HTTPS://WWW.THESUN.IE/NEWS/2767198/SWIMMERS-ARE-BEING-WARNED-ABOUT-HUGE-JELLYFISH-WITH-A-LETHAL-STING-BEING-FOUND-IN-IRISH-WATERS-WITH-SEVERAL-PEOPLE-ALREADY-HOSPITALISED/](https://www.thesun.ie/news/2767198/swimmers-are-being-warned-about-huge-jellyfish-with-a-lethal-sting-being-found-in-irish-waters-with-several-people-already-hospitalised/)
- [HTTPS://WWW.SCIENCEMAG.ORG/NEWS/2018/11/JELLYFISH-ALMOST-KILLED-SCIENTIST-NOW-SHE-WANTS-SAVE-OTHERS-THEIR-FATAL-VENOM](https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/11/jellyfish-almost-killed-scientist-now-she-wants-save-others-their-fatal-venom)



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"THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON"

IS CREATED THROUGH THE INGENUITY & HARD WORK OF:

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