

The Red Circle is our Mystery for April Meeting

The April 14 Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at 6:00 p.m. at T.S. McHugh's Public House, 21 Mercer Street, Seattle, (206) 282-1910. **Come early to order dinner and catch up with other SOBs!** Many arrive as early as 5:00.

Same month, different case...as REDC follows ILLU by a mere 3 weeks in September 1902. **Says PFL David:**

Mrs. Warren, who lets rooms in her Bloomsbury house, has consulted Holmes about a strange lodger with strange requests. Holmes deduces a system of messages being sent via the *Daily Gazette's* agony columns.

What follow are the abduction of Mrs. Warren's husband, a chance encounter with Inspector Gregson and a Pinkerton detective from the U.S., and the murder of one Giuseppe Gorgiano, a vicious killer well-known to Holmes.

But what is this "red circle", and how have these simple folk been ensnared by it? Round up all the facts by reading The Adventure of the Red Circle!

"Well, Mrs. Warren, I cannot see that you have any particular cause for uneasiness, nor do I understand why I, whose time is of some value, should interfere in the matter. I really have other things to engage me." So spoke Sherlock Holmes and turned back to the great scrapbook in which he was arranging and indexing some of his recent material. But the landlady had the pertinacity and also the cunning of her sex. She held her ground firmly.



The Adventure of the Red Circle

Lots of Activities Coming in Spring, Summer!

Need your Sherlockian fix?? There's lots to do in the months ahead! Let us count the ways:

- ❶ Look in at the Sumner Library before March month-end to view the dozen literary hand-made dolls by 15-year-old Margaret Hoang, including one of Sherlock Holmes! See the item on Page 3 under Things to See, Buy, Do & Know.
- ❷ On Saturday, March 29, celebrate the 28th year of the SOBs by attending an elegant tea and auction of Sherlockian items at the Haugen's. If possible, send Terri an email to let her know that you are coming, and assist her in menu planning by indicating what food items you plan to bring.
- ❸ Saturday, May 3 meet in Tumwater/Olympia for the annual commemorative wreath throw and delightful (Dutch treat) lunch following at the Falls Terrace Restaurant. James Romnes generously volunteered to coordinate the event. James probably will wear "authentic" Victorian garb, so dust off your time-appropriate garments and wear them to the wreath throw. It is another way to get potential new members from folks who stop to ask what's going on.

❹ There is also a chance that Sam & Louise Fry will again open their lovely home in Olympia for the dessert portion of this event. If so, we will ask you to please bring along a dessert to share for those festivities.

❺ Attend the May 12th SOB Meeting, which Margie Deck is chairing again. Not to put her on the spot, but she usually has some surprises up her sleeves when she fills in for PFL David.

❻ Consider acting as PFL-for-a-Meeting on June 9. With the Haugens away traveling, there's an opening in the schedule for *you* to step in! PFL David can, of course, provide a prepared quiz for the Meeting, which will be on "The Three Gables."

❼ Saturday, August 2 come to the John H. Watson picnic which Paul Williams schedules for us at the great public beach location, Seahurst Park in Burien, each year. Mark the day on your calendar, defrost your weenies and look forward to a great summer day picnic.

Surely there's something here to keep you amused!

And, don't call me "Shirley"!!!

Interesting Items About REDC:

- ☞ Did Gorgiano's clean-shaven appearance and Lucca's black beard and moustache signal a change in previously perceived symbols of evil?
- ☞ The Carbonari were a secret society formed in Naples during the early 19th century to establish a separate republic, and they were not averse to using violence to attain this end.
- ☞ Some of the Carbonari's customs were adopted by the Mafia, notably the practice of "omerta" or silence regarding the affairs of the society, as well as penalty for breaking the code of omerta with swift and inevitable death.



Another Puzzler!

Down Clue:
"Sherlock Holmes
portrayer"

Answer: Basil Rathbone

Source: *New York Times Crossword*,
No. 0828

Who's English Is This?

Ecky thump, you say?? It expresses frustration—as in, "Ecky thump, I've got to do the dishes."

Source: *Entertainment Weekly*, 6/22/07

Five jobs at Buckingham Palace

Titles remain, though duties change through the years:

- Backstairs Sauce Chef
- Yeoman Bed Hangers and Bed-Goers (prepare beds)
- Yeoman of the Glass and China Pantry
- Keeper of the Queen's Swans
- Royal Bargemaster

Source: *Tacoma News Tribune*; "On Royalty" (Jeremy Paxman, Penguin Pub., 2006)