Feeding Clyde: An Elementary Drabble

By: SOB Eli Edwards

Profuse apologies to Eli, but this essay was erroneously left out of our 2013-2014 issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual; thus, we are giving it prominent and total placement in this Double Issue of Twaddle!!

Says Eli, “something based on last night’s episode (January 2, 2014) of ‘Elementary’.”

When Holmes and Watson returned to the brownstone the next morning after Moriarty’s capture, Sherlock grabbed his violin and went straight to his room. Joan briefly considered whether to follow him. Seeing Moriarty shook him—saving her obviously left him unsettled, and the former counselor in Joan wanted to help him process that.

But as his partner—she decided to trust that he would come to her at some point. There wasn’t a need to push him, yet. She thought about going back up to bed and sleeping in, but she was still keyed up from the night’s events. Too agitated to rest, but too exhausted to go out for a run. She was still pondering what to do when she heard a noise in the kitchen.

Joan found Ms. Hudson at the sink, washing lettuce leaves, a rectangular Tupperware container nearby on the counter. “Good morning…isn’t it a bit early for a salad?”

Ms. Hudson smiled. “Hello. And it’s not too early for Clyde’s breakfast.” She glanced down in the Tupperware.

Walking over from the doorway, Joan looked down and saw Clyde, resting on a paper towel as he munched away. “Is that butter lettuce?” asked Joan.

Ms. Hudson nodded. “So far, it’s his favorite.”

“He has a favorite?” Joan gently tapped her fingers over the top of his shell, but Clyde continued his chewing, undisturbed.

Ms. Hudson was tearing up the leaves into semi-uniform bits and tossing them into a salad spinner.

“Actually, he has several favorites. Butter lettuce. Red lettuce. Romaine hearts…”

Joan watched the woman’s hands as she finished rinsing the lettuce and tossed the pieces in a salad spinner. She knew she shouldn’t stare, but the surgeon in her was continually fascinated in the changes she could detect from Ms. Hudson’s transition that weren’t the result of hormones: the softening of the jaw, the shaving of the Adam’s apple, the repositioning of the hairline. Not that Joan would ever ask about Ms. Hudson’s surgeries. Or treat her as anything other than a woman.

She refocused her attention on the spinner as it rotated, feeling strangely lulled by the motion.

“you've bought different types of lettuce to feed a turtle.” This conversation felt unreal, but given the heightened reality of last night—three dead bodies, a bleeding Moriarty nearly half-dead, a still-missing little girl—a bit of unreality was soothing.

Ms. Hudson shrugged. “I noticed that iceberg lettuce didn't seem…

Continued on Page 2
Feeding Clyde:...

...to agree with Clyde. His poops were runny. So, I experimented.”

Joan blushed. She tended to feed iceberg lettuce to Clyde. “And you’re tracking what gets fed to Clyde—and what comes out?”

“Uh-huh. I have it in my notebook. It’s in the living room, if you want to see it. Page 15.”

Joan went to the living room and grabbed the notebook sticking out of Ms. Hudson’s bag, carefully paging to the mentioned page without looking at anything else. There was a chart. It had the types of lettuce, date eaten, Clyde’s weight, estimated quantities and qualities of his excrement after feeding, and his general liveliness after feeding. It was surprisingly extensive.

“Ms. Hudson,” Joan called out, “how do you weigh Clyde?”

She called back, “Oh, I put a paper towel on the bathroom scale and weigh him there.”

Joan nodded and went back into the kitchen. Joan sat down on the living couch, legs folded under her and watched Clyde pad back and forth in the Tupperware. In 20 minutes, she was asleep. When she awoke hours later, there was a light blanket over her, the Tupperware was gone, and there was a Post-It note on the couch: “He’s asleep. There is lunch in the fridge. See you next week. - H”

Joan smiled and drifted back to sleep.

“The world lost a decent medical researcher in you, Ms. Hudson. Does Sherlock know of your experiments?”

Ms. Hudson blushed slightly. “Thank you. Yes, he’s seen the chart. He thanked me for keeping Clyde healthy, and took credit for encouraging my powers of observation.”

The women sighed in unison and grinned.

“I’d better start cleaning up the kitchen. Are you alright, can I get you anything?”

Joan shook her head. “No, thank you, I’m fine. I’ll just stay down here and keep Clyde company.”

Ms. Hudson nodded and went back into the kitchen. Joan sat down on the living couch, legs folded under her and watched Clyde pad back and forth in the Tupperware. In 20 minutes, she was asleep. When she awoke hours later, there was a light blanket over her, the Tupperware was gone, and there was a Post-It note on the couch: “He’s asleep. There is lunch in the fridge. See you next week. - H”

Joan smiled and drifted back to sleep.
Our Annual Wreath Throw is Saturday, May 3!

“Come away with me for a week to the Continent...”. That’s how “The Final Problem” began on April 24, with Holmes entering Watson’s consulting-room with that proposition. And it was on the third of May that Holmes and Watson arrived in Meiringen and the catastrophe at Reichenbach was played out.

Join us on Saturday, May 3 once again for our Annual Wreath Throw in Tumwater, WA, as we celebrate the life and commemorate the death of Sherlock Holmes at Reichenbach Falls.

The Romnes Clan—James, Ginie, Bryan & Emily—will act as your hosts for this event, so don’t miss it!! Weather willing, it should be an excellent spring day!

We’ll convene in the park on the Deschutes River in Tumwater promptly at 11:30 a.m., then proceed to the falls together for the wreath throw, photos and champagne toasts.

Lunch will follow immediately at 1:00 p.m. at The Falls Terrace Restaurant, 106 Deschutes Way, (360) 943-7830.

Driving directions to the Annual Wreath Throw:
- If northbound on I-5, take Exit 103; follow Deschutes Way S.W. (straight) north for about a block to The Falls Terrace Restaurant, which is on your right.
- If southbound on I-5, take Exit 103; stay straight onto 2nd Avenue SW; turn right onto Custer Way SE (back over I-5); turn right onto Boston St. SE; and then left onto Deschutes Way SW. The Falls Terrace is on your left.
- The entrance to the park is on the south side of The Falls Terrace Restaurant.

You Say To-may-to, I Say To-mah-to!!

By: SOBs Ann Milam & Terri Haugen

We’ve always been confused about the proper pronunciation of Inspector Lestrade’s surname. The old Rathbone/Bruce productions used the softened “a” as in “ah”, as does the BBC’s “Sherlock” series.

CBS TV’s “Elementary” employs Captain Tobias Gregson as one of its two primary members of the “official force”. (TV.com does note the appearance of “Inspector Lestrade” as a guest on “Elementary”, but not having seen the episode, we have no idea how Lestrade is pronounced.)

The Jeremy Brett/Granada series used the long “a” pronunciation, as in the word “trade”.

Doing a bit of research, we found a little piece at the online fantasy fiction site, mayhematics.com. At http://www.mayhematics.com/f/lestrade.htm is a fiction piece (G. P. Jelliss, 2008) entitled, “The Memoirs of Inspector Lestrade”.

Paragraph 4 of the essay reads: “The name Lestrade probably is of French origin, though I have never attempted to trace my ancestry back beyond my grandfather who was a Thames waterman, while my father worked as a stevedore in the East India Docks. They always gave the name the Cockney pronunciation ‘Lestraid’ rather than ‘Le-strahd’ as people educated in French tend to read it. In the East End of London I rubbed shoulders early on with many of the criminal fraternity and learnt their ways. Some of my old school mates took to the path of crime, and one or two later came to my professional notice, but on the whole the people we knew were, as the music hall song has it, “poor but honest”.

Digging deeper, we found a series of books about Lestrade by M. J. Trow (available on Amazon) titled “The Lestrade Mystery Series”. Beginning with “The Adventures of Inspector Lestrade”, Trow’s series now numbers 16 books—with adventures spanning the time period 1891 through 1913.

When googling the phrase “pronunciation of Lestrade” the following blog comes up (as do many others): http://www.discworldemporium.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=13494. Those who weighed in were split about 50/50 between the soft and the long pronunciation of the “a”. And the only person who seemed to write with any apparent command of the subject refers others to the same quote we’ve shown at left!

Undoubtedly more research is needed on this topic—as the mystery goes on!
The 2014 BSI Weekend Festivities

By: SOB Sonia Fetherston, BSI, Salem, OR

“Rather an irregular proceeding… the whole thing is irregular…”

So says Athelney Jones in The Sign of the Four and so say attendees of the annual Baker Street Irregulars’ Weekend in New York City.

Festivities got underway Wednesday, January 15, when the Adventurresses of Sherlock Holmes held their annual “ASH Wednesday” dinner. The next afternoon the winner of the 2014 Morley-Montgomery Award was named: Newcomer Anastasia Klimchynskaya took home the prize for writing the best article in the Baker Street Journal! That evening chemist and writer Dr. James O’Brien delivered the Distinguished Speaker Lecture on the topic of Sherlock Holmes and science to a sold-out crowd. Friday morning, friends of the Great Detective gathered at Otto Penzler’s legendary “Mysterious Bookshop”. You never know what famous authors you might bump into there! Just before noon everybody hurried to The William Gillette Memorial Luncheon, which brings together several hundred Sherlockians from around the world. That evening many people headed to The Gaslight Gala, a gathering open to all Sherlockians and their friends in Greenwich Village. Meanwhile at the Yale Club in Midtown Manhattan, the granddaddy of all Sherlockian festivities took place: the annual dinner of the Baker Street Irregulars. It was the third year I received a coveted invitation, and I was asked to lead the group in a memorial toast to one of the fifteen original members of the organization—Dr. James Bliss Austin. We enjoyed a presentation on the subject of crime scenes, followed by a pawky debate on BSI constitutional and “buy laws” issues. Names of new investitures were announced: Peter McIntyre, S.J. Rozan, Chris Music, Mark Alberstat, Jacquelynn Morris, Terry Hunt…and me! I received my investiture under the nom, “The Solitary Cyclist.” What a huge surprise and such a deep honor.

Next morning merchants of Sherlockian memorabilia attracted hundreds of eager buyers at the Roosevelt Hotel, followed by the BSI’s Annual Reception and auction to benefit the Dr. John H. Watson Fund. Weekend-goers then fanned out across the city to meet up for dinner with old friends and new. It was an exciting weekend.

The 2015 BSI Weekend is already scheduled for January 7 to 11. Hope I’ll see you there!!

The Many Talented SOBs

Throughout the pages of Ineffable Twaddle and our Beaten’s Christmas Annual, you’ll see what talented writers and quiz masters we have among The SOB Membership! But, don’t miss Page 40 of our 2013/2014 issue of Beaten’s, where a superb illustration by SOB Dawn Kravagna accompanies SOB Airy Maher’s essay. Not to be overlooked are the artistic talents of some of our other Members! SOB Frank Bork of Lancaster, NY, never fails to send PFL David his “compliments of the season” with a hand-crafted Holmes-inspired greeting card (his 2013, at left). Not to be outdone is SOB Lauren Messenger with her pen & ink drawing of Holmes & Watson, with Christmas-appropriate color and verbiage in the background (below).

There seems to be little or nothing that Sherlockians—SOBs in particular—CAN’T do, if they put their “brain attic” and “lumber rooms” to it! Kudos!
Officials Beyond Reproach; Pursue the Foreign Agent!

The May 18, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at 4:00 p.m. at T.S. McHugh’s Public House. **The social hour starts at 3:00!** The story to study is “The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans”.

**Says PFL David:** It’s 1895 in foggy London, and Mycroft has arrived at 221B. Big brother enlists his sibling’s time and talent to locate missing patent plans to a strategically critical state-of-the-art submarine. ⭐ Seven of the ten pages were found with the body of Arthur Cadogan West, a young clerk in a government office, whose body was found next to the Underground tracks near the Aldgate tube station, his head crushed. He had a little money on him and theatre tickets (although there appears to have been no robbery), but oddly, no Underground ticket. The horror is that the still-missing page of the story with “The Bruce-Partington Plans”.

The questions are many, but you can trust Holmes to solve “The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans”.

The SOBs Bid Farewell to John Nelson

**SOB Barbara Nelson** tells us that her husband, John, died on March 4. He had completely lost his memory...of Barbara, their home, their dogs, everything...and had been living in a group home for the last few weeks because, being such a big fellow, Barbara could no longer handle his care. His not knowing her at all added stress for them both, and he contracted pneumonia on February 28.

John & Barbara have been very active Members of The SOBs since mid-1995. They hosted numerous events at their home in Shoreline, WA—in particular, our “Annual Will Crakes Memorial Jollification” holiday party each December—in their marvelously decorated, authentic 1895-built home. They made nearly every meeting, Masters’ Dinner, Wreck Throw, John H. Watson Picnic and play—and it was quite unusual and of great concern when they didn’t make an SOB event!!!

He could fix anything, loved to travel in their RV, loved fast cars and the Indie 500 (which they attended many, many times) and loved his bride of many decades, “Bobbie”.

John won so many of PFL David’s silly “games” at our Watson Picnics, that the trophy almost became a fixture on their mantle at home...until Barbara forbade him from competing!! But he was such a good sport!!

It’s a darn shame that someone like John, who had so many varied life experiences and knew such interesting factoids about so many things and was such an articulate fellow, should lose that marvelous mind!!!

When we sent out an e-mail blast about John’s passing, here’s what some of his fellow SOBs had to say: **“We haven’t seen them in a while but how sad. He wash such an energetic SOB.”;** **“I thought John was a wonderful person and he will be missed.”;** **“Poor Barbara carried a huge load caring for him, but she would not have had it any other way. I send the Club my condolences for the loss of a treasured Member.”;** **“Sad news, yes but those of us who are true believers know that where John is now, his memory is as good as it ever was!”**

Barbara hopes to have a memorial when things settle down. She also would like to host an open house this summer, to allow their beloved SOB friends to consider acquiring things from their Sherlockian collection.

If/when John’s obituary is published, we’ll send more details.

Barbara says, of course, that she’s not in need of anything right now. In the meantime, perhaps dropping her a card or a short voicemail message would be a wonderful gesture!! Her address is: 2531 N.W. 195th Place, Shoreline, WA 98177-2933. Her phone is: (206) 546-3339.
The SOBs’ 2013/2014 issue of  
Beaten’s Christmas Annual  
is NOW available!

The Sound of the Baskervilles’  
2013/2014 “Beaten’s Christmas An- 
nual” was delivered to attendees at our  
annual Masters’ Dinner on March  
1, and has now been mailed to Mem- 
bbers in good-standing who could not  
attend the banquet.  

Newer Members:  Until at least one  
renewal dues has been paid, copies of  
Beaten’s are available for $5 per  
copy. Thereafter, while your Mem- 
bership is in good-standing (by con- 
tinuous payment of annual dues),  
you will receive the Annual at no  
additional cost—over the annual dues  
of $20 for individuals ($30 families).  

Members who have not paid their  
2013 / 2014 dues:  Copies of  
Beaten’s are available for $5 per  
copy. Thereafter, while your Mem- 
bership is in good-standing (by con- 
tinuous payment of our annual dues),  
you will receive the Annual at no  
additional cost—over the annual dues  
of $20 for individuals ($30 families).  

Please send your request for  
additional copies of our new Beaten’s  
Christmas Annual to Editor Terri  
Haugen at: terri@sounofthe  
baskervilles.com.

Librarian’s Corner  
“It is a great thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own.”  
—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
The SOB’s Lending Library is a great resource for both Sherlockians and Doyleans.  
Many books await your curiosity, your interest and your needs for scholarly research.  
Here are just a few of the library’s contents.  

⇒ DOYLE:  The Man Who Created Sherlock Holmes by Andrew Lycett;  
Out of the Shadows: the Untold Story of Arthur Conan Doyle’s First Family by Georgina Doyle;  
Memories and Adventures by ACD himself.  

⇒ SHERLOCKIAN STUDIES:  Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street by William S. Baring-Gould;  
Baker Street Byways by James Holroyd;  
Baker Street Studies ed. H.W. Bell;  
Sherlock Holmes: Fact or Fiction by T.S. Blakeney;  
The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes by Vincent Starrett;  
Homes and Watson by S.C. Roberts.  All of these books are  
classics by early Sherlockian scholars.  They are fascinating.  

⇒ GENERAL REFERENCE:  Sherlock Holmes and Conan Doyle Locations by Alan Foster;  
Who’s Who in Sherlock Holmes by Bullard and Collins;  
The Sherlock Holmes Reference Library:  The Return of Sherlock Holmes, ed. Leslie S. Klinger;  
The World Bibliography of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson by Ronald DeWaal;  
Sherlock Holmes on Screen by Alan Barnes.  

I bring hard-bound books and paperbacks to Club Meetings on an alternate-month schedule.  
Every month, the library catalog is on the book table in a red folder.  It is also on our SOB  
website.  If you want a particular book and it’s not the month for that type of book, just ask  
and I’ll bring it to you.  

SOB Stephen Adkins is the caretaker/librarian for the Lloyd Hedberg Library.  An annotated  
catalog of that collection is also available in the red folder.  Stephen will bring you a book  
upon request.  
Happy Reading!  
Sheila Holtgrieve, SOB Librarian,  
sheilaholtgrieve@gmail.com

The Theft of the Sherlockian (Persian) Slipper  

By:  SOB Charlie Cook, Sumter, SC  

Nick Velvet has been summoned to Rome by  
Joe Bonoto to steal Sherlock Holmes’ Persian  
nipper from a replica of 221B at a new resort in  
Meringen, Switzerland, near the Reichenbach  
Falls.  

At his hotel, he meets tobacco salesman, Felix  
Cottonwood, who takes him to the room—  
which Nick notes is perfect in every way.  When  
Nick suggests that souvenir hunters might want  
to swipe things, he is told that the room has a  
security system.  Besides no Sherlockian would  
pilfer from such a place. It’s the best that they  
have until someone unearths Watson’s famous  
dispatch-box.  

That night Nick easily bypasses the security  
system but as he ponders the slipper’s contents,  
he hears a woman’s voice squeal, “Stop!”  I have  
a gun on you.” She takes him to her car and  
demands to know what Bonoto is paying him to  
find. She is Annette DuFrois and holds the  
gangster responsible for her brother’s death.  
Nick makes a grab for the gun and she shoots  
him, but with mace, not a bullet.  

Later, he awakens along the side of the road  
being kicked by one of Bonato’s goons. The  
boss wants the slipper, as he’s already paid Nick half his fee.  
So Nick goes back to the Inn but finds it gone. Did Annette  
take it to get even with Bonoto or did Bonoto take it to save  
paying Nick his fee? Perhaps Sherlock Holmes returned and  
took it to fill his Calabash pipe!  

Nick gets his gun and returns to Bonoto’s car  
only to find the crime boss and his henchman  
murdered. Shot! He traces down Annette, but  
she pleads innocence and he believes her. No  
gun shots had been heard, so a silencer must  
have been used, making it a professional hit.  
Annette asks him what Bonoto wanted and he  
tells her.  

SPOILER ALERT  

Immediately the detective knows all but once  
again must face the scene of Moriarty’s demise  
before he shockingly discovers the value of the  
slipper’s contents.  

Mr. Hoch’s stories appear in a plethora of  
anthologies as well as in various Ellery Queen  
Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

- **From SOB Ann Milam:** 
  - But on the subject of **Holmes and opera**, which is what I was really looking for (above), I found this squib at the London Walk website: [www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk/library/londonwalk/londonwalk.htm](http://www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk/library/londonwalk/londonwalk.htm): “Nothing satisfied Holmes more after the conclusion of a particularly baffling case than to end the evening at the renowned Simpson’s-in-the-Strand. Strolling south to the Strand, you’ll pass the recently renovated Royal Opera House, often attended by Holmes in its previous incarnation. See as well the police court on Bow Street where Holmes makes an astonishing deduction to conclude ‘The Man with a Twisted Lip’.”
- **From SOB Margie Deck:** 
  - The New York Times carried a great discussion between contributors James Parker and Pankaj Mishra on January 7, 2014 on James Bond, Sherlock Holmes and Hercule Poirot in a piece titled, “Why Do We Keep Resurrecting the Same Literary Characters?” To read the entire piece, the best route is to simply Google the title!!
  - According to Massive Events, Hartwood Films and Showmasters Ltd., they will run “Sherlocked”, the first ever official Sherlock convention dedicated to the BBC series over 3 days some time in 2014 both in the U.S. and in Europe. For details, you must register at [http://massiveevents.co.uk/sherlocked](http://massiveevents.co.uk/sherlocked). Sherlockology will also bring news on this exciting event as it is announced.
  - **From SOBs Geoff Jeffery & Cara Cross** (via Brenda Hutchinson of Dallas’ Scion the Crew of the Baroque Lone Star): On the January 19 episode of CBS’ Sunday Morning program, Mo Rocca deduced the timeless popularity of Sherlock Holmes. Take a look at: [www.cbsnews.com/sunday-morning/show-notes/](http://www.cbsnews.com/sunday-morning/show-notes/), which says, “As Benedict Cumberbatch returns to PBS playing a modern-day Sherlock Holmes, Rocca dons a deerstalker and tries to solve the mystery of the continuing appeal of the world’s greatest detective. Rocca visits 221B Con, a Sherlock fan convention in Atlanta; chats with a Pulitzer Prizewinning book critic; and interviews Jonny Lee Miller and Lucy Liu, stars of ‘Elementary’, another contemporary take on Holmes and Dr. Watson.” Among the Sherlockian interviewees were David McCallister at the 221B Con, Michael Dirda and SOB Don Hobbs.
  - **From SOB Kashena Koneck:** Here’s a new app to try: “The Game’s Afoot for Sherlock: Interactive Adventure on iOS”! In portrait mode, it lets you read the original text of “The Adventure of the Red-Headed League”. In landscape mode, the text disappears as the app lets you listen to an audio version, read by popular audiobook narrator Simon Vance. Either way, you get treated to these interactive features: 3-D animated plot-based scenes, a collection of period articles, dossiers on the key characters, a map of 19th century London, an original musical score, and a search mode that lets you play detective yourself. With so much content, don’t be surprised: The app requires more than 800MB of storage space on your iOS device! It’s compatible with iPhone, iPad touch and iPad running iOS 6.1 or later, and a free download is available at: [https://itunes.apple.com/US/app/id820860824?mt=8](https://itunes.apple.com/US/app/id820860824?mt=8) The free download includes only the first few parts of the adventure, which should be more than enough to give you a clear idea of its interactivity. To enjoy the app fully, you can unlock the full version via a single in-app purchase, which for a limited time is available for the 40%-off price of $2.99. For more, go to: [http://appadvice.com/appnn/2014/03/shelf-control-the-games-afoot-for-sherlock-interactive-adventure-on-ios](http://appadvice.com/appnn/2014/03/shelf-control-the-games-afoot-for-sherlock-interactive-adventure-on-ios).
  - **From Peter Blau:** 
  - BBC now offers a “Sherlock: The Network” iPhone and iPad app, with more than 30 minutes of new video content, games, and a mystery to solve. £2.99 in the U.K.; $4.99 in the U.S.; details at [www.sherlockthenetwork.com](http://www.sherlockthenetwork.com).
  - Further to the report on a decision in Les Klinger’s lawsuit against the Arthur Conan Doyle Estate, the ruling has received lots of publicity in the press and on the Internet. Sutin, Thayer & Browne (the Estate’s law firm) has announced they will appeal the decision to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Editor’s Note: **SOB Bill Mason** notes that Watson’s battered tin dispatch box appears in the last 10 stories so no pastiche can start with the premise of finding it and glancing through its contents.
  - **From Sherlock Holmes Journal Editor Roger Johnson:** The excellent “Sherlockian-Sherlock” website has recently added a thought provoking and possibly controversial section on Common Misbeliefs. Go to: [www.sherlockian-sherlock.com](http://www.sherlockian-sherlock.com) and click on Most Common Misbeliefs. It’s well worth your attention, as is the rest of the website.

---

From SOB John Longenbaugh

A few people have expressed interest in being kept up on my writing projects. One of these is Sherlockian. 

(On March 5) the Seattle Weekly published a new piece by me about how I, as a Sherlockian, feel about the BBC “Sherlock”, and I speak (in favorable terms) about the SOBs. It’s titled “The Sherlockians Assess Benedict Cumberbatch”. Here’s the link: [http://www.seattleweekly.com/home/951397-129/arts-the-sherlockians-assess-benedict-cumberbatch](http://www.seattleweekly.com/home/951397-129/arts-the-sherlockians-assess-benedict-cumberbatch). I hope it helps spreading the news a little farther on the SOBs!

Editor’s Note: A copy of John’s newest article will be added to our Lending Library!! And, don’t miss SOB Eli Edwards’ (ms_eli) rebuttal to John’s commentary at the website cited above!!

---

From SOB Margie Deck: 

A nice piece—“The Case of the Accidental Superstar”—for the “Cumberbabes” and for those of us who can never decide if he’s handsome or ugly! In these photos, there is no doubt: handsome! Go to: [http://tmagazine.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/03/07/the-case-of-the-accidental-superstar/](http://tmagazine.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/03/07/the-case-of-the-accidental-superstar/) Or Google, “The Case of the Accidental Superstar”
Member News & Updates

SOBs attending our March 16, 2014 SOB Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen were:

Margaret Nelson  Airy Maher   Terri Haugen  Sheila Holtgrieve  Al Nelson  Pat McIntosh  Lauren Messenger  James Romnes  Ginie Romnes  Bryan Romnes  Ann Milam  Hank Deck  Shannon Wallace  Lauran Stevens

It was rousing and raucous study of WIST—perhaps influenced by the festivities of St. Patty’s Day!! Tied for 1st place were Airy and Sheila; for 2nd Ann and Ginnie; and for 3rd, Shannon and Lauren M.!! A newcomer was Morag Logan, who saw PLF David do his panel at the first Seattle Sherlock Con in 2012 and then again at the January 2014 party held by the Con for Sherlock’s birthday!! Since she turned in her application, we think she’s going to join!! Proud Pop James told us that Emily had recently attended a culinary convention in the Bay Area—one of only 2 students invited by her chef/instructor. And, she’s only 16!

SOB Margaret Nelson took better notes than Terri at the February Meeting’s discussion of the future direction this scion should take. Her corrections note:

Airy’s ideas for Meeting topics were: a) discuss articles from our new Beaten’s Christmas Annual; b) compare/contrast two of the Holmes stories that may be similar; c) compare different films of the same story; and d) ask the Seattle Sherlock Con to let some SOBs be on a panel this year; those volunteering to investigate this were: Kashena Konecki, Lauren Messenger, and Airy Maher.

Sheila’s ideas for Meeting topics were: a) to get Lauran Stevens, Margie Deck, and Sheila to conduct more quizzes; and b) have a competition between two teams—the “techies” with their I-Pads and SmartPhones; the “fuzzies” with their Canons and reference books—to find specific info in the stories!

SOB Lauran Stevens received her visible honours of having won our 2013 “Footprints of a Gigantic Hound Award” at the March Meeting!! Here she is with PFL David receiving the rotating trophy and later she received her permanent investment—a medal depicting Queen Victoria on a red, white and blue ribbed pin.

SOB Charlie Cook, Sumter, SC wrote when he received his new Beaten’s to say he wished he’d been at our Masters’ Dinner so that he could have toasted both Editor Marvin Kaye and his Associate Editors Steve Coupe and Sam Cooper of the “Sherlock Holmes Mystery Magazine”! Don’t miss Charlie’s reviews of the first 9 issues of the SHMM—along with graphics by SOB Mike Bacon—beginning on Page 5 of Beaten’s!! Said Charlie, “What a marvelous contribution to the genre this new magazine is!!”