Joint Meeting with The Stormy Petrels of BC!
Thanks to efforts by SOB Board Member Emeritus Al Nelson and Stormy Petrel Sheldon Goldfarb, a joint meeting of our two Sherlockian Clubs will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2015, Noon to 4 p.m. at the Skagit River Brewery (404 S. 3rd St, [360] 336-2884), Mt Vernon, WA. (http://www.skagitbrew.com). This will be a social event, so plan to meet some new folks! Formal presentations and such are still under consideration; email Al with your suggestions at: nelsonah46@yahoo.com. Separate checks will be provided, and drinks will be “no host” (at your expense). We hope to have carpooling from various Seattle-Tacoma locales for those who need rides! Please make yourselves known to Al or PFL David!!

Let’s Head to Minneapolis Next June!

SOB PFL to be a Featured Speaker!
Head to Minneapolis June 17 through 19, 2016 for “The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes”—the 2016 joint tri-annual conference of the Norwegian Explorers and the University of Minnesota. Cost is $215, which includes breaks, lunch and a banquet on Saturday.

Says Co-Chair Julie McKuras, “We’re going with a whole new slate of speakers, none of whom have spoken here before...Our theme doesn’t merely reflect the book, “The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes” but any-thing that is misadventurous or even just adventurous...We think it will be exciting.”

The conference hotel is “The Commons”, located on the University campus in downtown Minneapolis. (www.commonshotel.com) The room rate (1 king bed or 2 queen beds) is $146 per night. Guests have until May 16, 2016 to reserve a room. To book your room, call or click:

- (800) 822-6757 or 612-379-8888 and ask for the “Sherlock Holmes Conference”, OR

PFL David’s talk will focus on how The SOBs have dealt with the new Sherlockian Members we’ve acquired after the first several Sherlock Seattle Conventions, which will certainly include a contrast between Baby Boomer fans and Gen Y enthusiasts.

Be part of PFL David’s groupies, his fans, his hecklers...whatever!! Here’s our chance to show the world what a REAL scion society looks like!!! Further details will follow!!
A “Creeping” Tale Perfect for this Halloween Season!!

The October 18, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at 1:30 p.m. at The Seattle Public Library at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (Queen Anne Branch). Says PFL David:

This is our 51st tale in the Canon (in publication date order), and it is creepy!! It involves a most unusual May-December romance and the one in which we see Holmes’ fabulously-worded, mysterious message to Watson: “Come at once if convenient—if inconvenient come all the same. — S. H.”

An elderly man in love with a much younger woman, a man in search of a fountain of youth, a brilliant man who’s personality and physicality change drastically—alarming his entire household. As Holmes tells Watson at the close of this story, “When one tries to rise above Nature one is liable to fall below it.”

Curious? Enjoy this creepy holiday with a visit to “The Adventure of the Creeping Man”!

Jeremy Brett: 20 Years On

Source: Roger Johnson, The S.H. Society of London

On September 12, 2015—the 20th anniversary of his death—a handsome commemorative bench was dedicated at Clapham Common and tributes were paid by some of Jeremy Brett’s colleagues and friends.

Brett’s last home was a penthouse flat with superb views of Clapham Common, a place that was very dear to him. In 2007 a tree was planted in his memory, near the bandstand there—one of his favourite spots.

If you want a meal before or after The SOB Meeting, try these eateries on Queen Anne Avenue:

- The 5 Spot, 1502 Queen Anne Ave. North; American cuisine.
- Hilltop Ale House, 2129 Queen Anne Ave. North; decent pub fare.
- Orrapin Thai Cuisine, 10 Boston Street (the intersection of Queen Anne Ave. North and Boston).
- The Paragon, 2125 Queen Anne Ave. North; eclectic cuisine.
- Olympia Pizza and Spaghetti, 1500 Queen Anne Ave. North; excellent pizza with a Greek slant.
- Betty, 1507 Queen Anne Ave. North; Northwest cuisine.

Thanks to SOBs Jon Strandberg & Sue Reid for this list!!!

His career encompassed vastly more, of course, but it was his magnificent performance as Sherlock Holmes for Granada Television that brought him world-wide fame and affection. (The series produced 41 episodes from 1984 through 1994.)

In addition, that day, attendees of the event were offered access by Wyndham’s Theatre (near Leicester Square) to their Royal Circle Bar to view the plaque placed there by the Baker Street Irregulars and a display of photographs by Keith Harding of Jeremy Brett and Edward Hardwicke in “The Secret of Sherlock Holmes” (performed at Wyndham’s 22 September 1988 through 16 September 1989).

Heading to London? Clapham Common is a large triangular urban park in Clapham, South London, in the London borough of Lambeth. It is 220 acres of green space, with three ponds and a Victorian bandstand. It is overlooked by large Georgian and Victorian mansions, and nearby Clapham Old Town. Clapham Common tube station and Clapham South tube station are on the edge of the park at its easternmost and southernmost points respectively. Both stations are served solely by the Northern Line.
Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

Otto Penzler’s new book The Big Book of Sherlock Holmes Stories, $18.95 out now, consists of short biographies and background info on the careers of Martin Freeman and Benedict Cumberbatch, as well as Conan Doyle and the Sherlock Holmes Canon. Each episode of Sherlock (including a short discussion of Many Happy Returns) is quickly summarised, ending with a personal highlight of Stafford’s—a quote or moment from the episode—followed by a section called Did You Notice?, which draws attention to trivia, amusing tidbits and intertextual references to other literary works and pop culture...Another part is From the Sperracetti Press which painstakingly lists the references to the Canon and explains the context in the original Sherlock Holmes stories. While it might not catch every single hint and reference to Doyle’s work, it brilliantly shows just how closely linked Sherlock and the Canon are...Between the chapters we find interviews with Holmes experts Chris Redmond and Charles Prepeloc and a short discussion of the issue of Sherlock ‘sociopathy’. Reviewed by Maria Fleischhack (Bakerstreetbabes.com)

- Sherlock Holmes 3? Benedict Cumberbatch isn’t the only Sherlock Holmes on-screen. Robert Downey Jr.’s “Sherlock Holmes” franchise is hoping to add a third installment. Producer Lionel Wigram revealed that a movie script is being written. “We’re working on a ‘Sherlock Holmes 3’ script,” Wigram told IGN. “I think we would all love to do one if we could come up with something that really was going to knock it out of the park and was going to be the best of the three. So we’re working on that—it’s quite hard to do.” Wigram confirmed in his interview that both Downey and Law are still interested in reprising their roles as Holmes and Watson. “Very, Very,” he said. From http://www.ign.com/movies (Aug 6)
- More news has been released regarding the Houdini and Doyle drama planned for ITV.

Stephen Mangan (Green Wing, Episodes) has been cast as Doyle, with Michael Weston (who played Sherlock’s former dealer, Oscar Rankin, in two episodes of Elementary) as Houdini. It will be a 10-part series and is currently scheduled to air on ITV Encore some time in 2016.

Thanks to Carrie Chandler, editor, London Society’s District Messenger.

- Coming out October 15, 2015 is Sherlock Holmes’s London: Explore the City in the Footsteps of the Great Detective by Rose Shepherd (HC, $18.58 at Amazon). “Sherlock Holmes is one of the world’s most famous detectives, but Sherlock would be nothing without 221B Baker Street, the West End and the crime-ridden streets of London. Indeed, you cannot talk about Sherlock Holmes and not immediately think about the wonderfully mysterious and foggy city that was London at the end of the nineteenth century...”. Thanks to SOB Bill Seil!

⇒ The letter in which Agatha Christie wrote in 1966 that “All the Sherlock Holmes stories were enthusiasms of mine” (May 15 #2) sold for $2,250 (including the buyer’s premium).
⇒ It is nice to be able to report that Simpson’s-in-the-Strand (mentioned in “The Dying Detective” and “The Illustrious Client”) is still serving its traditional and properly British dinners and it likely will continue to do so. Rumors of possible changes to the restaurant caused some concern earlier this year, but it appears that management only is seeking to provide late-night and early-morning music in the restaurant’s upstairs rooms.
⇒ MX Publishing has announced a Kickstarter campaign to help cover the cost of creating a three-volume The MX Book of New Sherlock Holmes Stories with 60 stories whose authors have pledged all their royalties to the renovation of Conan Doyle’s home Undershaw by the Stepping Stones School. To contribute to the campaign at the Kickstarter web-site, go to: www.tinyurl.com/nfxkpnn.
⇒ Laurie King reports that she has finished work on the next Mary Russell novel, The Murder of Mary Russell, due for publication in April. At Laurie’s web-site’s (www.laurierking.com), scroll down to Laurie’s Muttering at lower right and read “This Is Mrs. Hudson?” to see what Mrs. Hudson was wearing in 1875.
Thanks to Peter Blau’s Scuttlebut from the Spermacetti Press

Continued on Page 4
Too Early to Start Saving for Christmas?...Naaahhh!

At our Master’s Dinner 2015, lucky SOB VP Kashena won the auction and took home her own custom-made Sherlockian-themed Christmas wreath!!

And, lucky you too!!

We’ll have another small auction for a second wreath at our November SOB Meeting! So bring your checkbooks, because the last one went for almost $60!!

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**Museum A Salute to Those Who’ve Worn the Uniform**

*Source: The Seattle Times, Gabriel Campanario*

Seattle cops, circa 1900, looked pretty spiffy. They wore high-collared shirts, heavy frock coats and tall helmets that not only helped them stand out in a crowd but conveniently stored their sandwiches. More interestingly, they didn’t carry handguns openly. They had to unbutton their coats to reach their pistols.

☆ I picked up these details from Officer Jim Ritter, the founder of the Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum in Pioneer Square. ☆

Ritter’s non-profit, open Tuesday through Saturday, includes thousands of historical photos and artifacts dating back to the Seattle Police Department’s origins in 1876, when it had one police chief and two officers who wore plain-clothes until the department could afford proper uniforms. ☆ A new chapter in the history of local law-enforcement fashion (started this past spring), when officers started wearing all solid navy-blue uniforms. ☆ The (previous) light-blue shirts and dark-blue slacks were introduced in 1961 before the Seattle World’s Fair. After so long, Ritter said, it will take some time to get used to the new look.

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**Things to See, Buy, Do and Know**

- **From Editor Terri:** We met a 12-year-old who calls himself “Henry the Buttonsmith” at the SciFi WorldCon in Spokane in August, who (with his Mom) makes every kind of button and fridge magnet you can imagine—pre-made or custom! We bought up every sort of already made-up pins with “Sherlock” quotes. And you can buy some too at: [http://www.henrybuttonsmith.com/](http://www.henrybuttonsmith.com/)


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The Always Tasteful, Sir Christopher Lee, 1924-2015

“We don’t always get the kind of work we want, but we always have a choice of whether to do it with grace or not.”
Is That English You’re Speaking?

**Vitamin.** In the UK, it’s pronounced the way it’s spelled: VIT-a-min; “vit” rhymes with “wit”. In the US, it’s pronounced VITE-a-min; vite rhyming with bite.

**Aluminum.** The British pronunciation is a tongue twister. Sounding it out may help, al-loo-MIN-ee-um...There’s a second “i” in the British form of the word: aluminium—hence the extra syllable.

**Privacy.** In the UK, it’s sort of like privy, as in “You’re not privy to this conversation.” Here, the word is pronounced PRIV-a-see, “priv” rhymes with the verb “live.”

**Schedule.** This is a tricky one. Somehow, in the UK, the word begins with a “shh” and the “c” (with its “k” sound) disappears, so it is sounded out as SHED-oo-al.

**Ate.** In Britain, this word has been traditionally pronounced “et”. Yep, just two letters. You’d think ate was already short enough. “I’m full, I et a huge lunch.”

**Garage.** Americans put a “za” on the end like Zsa Zsa Gabor, pronounced ga-RAHJ. In the UK, it’s pronounced “GARE-idge”, like “Can I park my bike in your GARE-idge?”

**Water.** BBC America’s Mind the Gap polled expat readers and a lot chimed in saying “water” is really hard for Americans to understand when said in a British accent. They don’t even know why! It comes across as “WAH-ta” vs. our “wooder.”

**Mobile.** Actually, the Brits pronounce this as it is spelled, mo-BILE, with “bile” rhyming with “while.” Americans pronounce it MO-bul.

**Advertisement.** Brits shorten this word to ad-vert which sounds quite clever, “Did you see the new Jaguar advert?” “Vert” sounds like “shirt”. The whole word is broken down like this, ad-VERT-iz-ment. We, on the other hand, keep the “t” in the third syllable making the UK “iz” into an American “tize” sounding like this, AD-ver-tize-ment.

**Herb.** Brits pronounce the “h” in herb, when referring to leafy greens, while it’s silent in the US and sounds like “erb”. For instance, in the UK, it’d be “herbal tea” versus here in the US, it’s “erb tea”.

**Guide to “Sherlock” London Invaluable!**

Heading to London any time soon? You **must** take this Guide with you!!

Thanks to SOB Lauran Stevens for spying it in the “Shop BBC” catalogue last spring—it was an invaluable tool on Haugen’s recent trek to the U.K. Except for Russell Square Gardens, they got to every one of these sites—drenching themselves in “Sherlock”!

Contact Editor Terri if you want a full-size copy!!

**CORRECTION**

Our item titled, “Update on the John H. Watson Society Competitions” on Page 5 in September’s *Ineffable Twaddle* (Vol. 34, September 2015, Issue 9) contained an error:

In posting weekly quiz scores on the JHWS webpage (http://johnhwatsonso-ciety.com/quiz-page/), when the Quiz Master says an entry is the “5th in”, it means the entry was the 5th one received with the right answer...not that the entry took 5th place!!!

So, to correct last month’s misstatement, the SOB Team (resident experts Margie Deck and Sheila Holtgrieve) had 100% correct answers on the 8 quizzes noted (though they weren’t always the first to send in their entries)!!

Apologies, Ladies!!
The Sound of the Baskervilles

By appointment of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria

Ineffable Twaddle

The monthly publication of The Sound of the Baskervilles

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**Member News, Notes, Updates**

- Oops, we spoke too soon! Thanks to SOB Paul Naher (of KC, MO) we learned in early September that SOB Don Mathews (of Elk City, ID) went back to the hospital (and he's still there as we go to press)! If you can, please send Don a get-well card at: St. Mary's Hospital, 701 Lewiston Street, Cottonwood, ID 83522.
- SOB Charlie Cook reports wife Diana took a National Geographic cave tour in southern France and Northern Spain in August, while he made his annual Canadian Theatre Marathon trip to Toronto seeing 18 productions in 10 days at the Shaw and Shakespeare festivals!
- Enclosed with this issue of Ineffable Twaddle is your copy of the current SOB Membership List— if you have paid your 2015/2016 dues!!! ☆ If you see corrections needed to your entry, please send them to Editor Terri or Treasurer Hank!! ☆ Don’t find the Membership Listing enclosed? It means we still haven’t booked your renewal dues—which was due in April—and we may need to remove your name from our rolls! Please don’t let that happen!!

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As reported last month, with “The 3rd Annual John H Watson Canonical Treasure Hunt: The Ultimate Sherlockian Quiz” out since July 31, The SOB team of Sheila Holtgrieve and Lauren Messenger (with a little help from their friend, The PFL) submitted their hard-fought-for entry in late August! This was a particularly tough Treasure Hunt—owing to the puzzling and Sherlockian expertise of this year’s Treasure Hunt creator, our own darnstardly Pawky Puzzler herself, SOB Margie Deck!!

The Hunt closed on September 1 and, promptly on September 3, Margie posted the results, which were, in the Team Category:

- High Honors: High Honors for this year goes to Uno Studio in Holmes, our returning team from Italy. The outstanding work by this team captured 153 of the 156 points. Congratulations to team members Michele Lopez, Stefano Guerra, Enrico Solito, Vera Mazzotta and Roberto Vianello.

- Honors: Honors for this year are shared between The Sound of the Baskervilles, returning champions from Seattle, and The Bootmakers of Toronto, with each team earning 143 points. Sheila Holtgrieve and Lauren Messenger represented The SOBs (as they are affectionately known); The Bootmakers are represented by Peter Calamai, Cliff Goldfarb, Peggy Perdue, and Chris Redmond.

For complete details of winners, check out the “Breaking News” page on our website (above). To watch results of the John H. Watson Society’s weekly quizzes all through the year, go to: http://johnh.watsonsociety.com/quiz-page/.