



Ineffable Twaddle

"It is my business to know what other people don't know."

The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle

A monthly publication of
The Sound of the Baker Street Irregulars

A Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars • Since March 31, 1980
Serving the Greater Puget Sound Region of Western Washington



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Double Issue

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.

The other woman shrugged. "I noticed that iceberg lettuce didn't seem..."

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Welcome our Newest Board Members!!!



Kashena Konecki

At our Annual Masters' Dinner on March 1, PFL David announced the appointment of our new Board Member and the passing of the Treasurer's baton from **Al Nelson** to **Hank Deck**.

Kashena Konecki, who's been a very active rookie since joining The SOBs in November 2012, will serve as our new Vice President!

Hank was a financial exec for 7-11 Corporation in Dallas and then with oil company Valero here in Washington, before he and Margie joined The SOBs in 2007. And luckily, Al will continue serving the Club as Board Member Emeritus.



Above (l to r), Hank & Margie Deck, with Al Nelson

Breaking News!

Easter is Sunday, April 20. Our April Meeting has thusly been moved to April 13!!!





T.S. McHugh's Public House is at 21 Mercer Street, Seattle, (206) 282-1910. **Come early, order a meal, and catch up with other SOBs!**



Breaking News!
Easter is Sunday, April 20.
Our April Meeting has thusly been moved to April 13!!!



Another New SOB for 2014

Our newest Member is no stranger to many of us!!

Linda Waring

is an old pal of SOB Bill Seil's who lives in Lacey, WA. Being so close to Olympia, Linda and her dog Taylor are frequent attendees at our Annual Wreath Throw in Tumwater. And, she often accompanies Bill to our Annual Masters' Dinner. Well, she finally decided to join our Club on March 1, so...
Welcome, Linda!!



Here's Linda (l) with SOB Lauren Messenger



Budding Actress!

Here's Annika Carlson playing Peter Pan!

She is big sister to **SOB Erika**

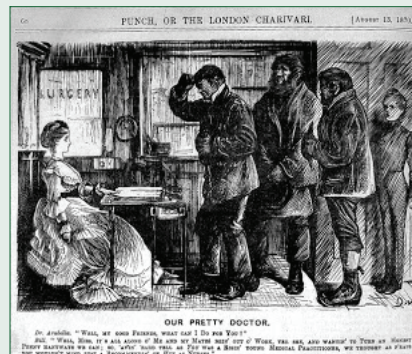
Carlson, and granddaughter to proud Grandpa & Grandma, **SOBs Geoff Jeffery & Cara Cross!**

"Women are Doctors too, Holmes!"

The **April 13, 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!**

Our first quarterly diversion from our usual monthly meeting format in 2014 has SOB Vivika Sundqvist chairing (and Club Librarian Sheila Holtgrieve assisting with meeting announcements).

Says Vivika: "Let's explore the life and training of the first female surgeon in Victorian Britain. How is it similar to Dr. John H. Watson's training? Just as interesting: Would they have met?"



If you'd like to take advantage of our once-per-quarter diversions—when we skip regular story-study for a Member to present a talk, conduct a quiz, or lead a discussion—simply visit with PFL David to get on the schedule!!

Feeding Clyde:...

Continued from Page 1

...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." She then came out of the kitchen, holding the Tupperware under one arm. Joan held out the notebook in one hand and reached for the Tupperware in the other. They traded.



"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.



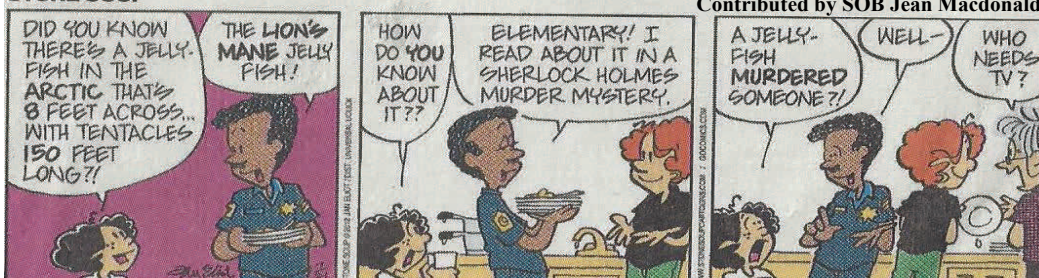
"I'd better start cleaning up the kitchen. Are you alright, can I get you anything?"

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"

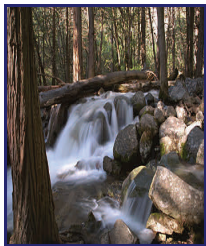
Joan smiled and drifted back to sleep.

STONE SOUP



Contributed by SOB Jean Macdonald

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 left 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/flestrade.htm> is a fiction piece (G. P. Jelliss, 2008) entitled, "The Memoirs of Inspector Lestrade".

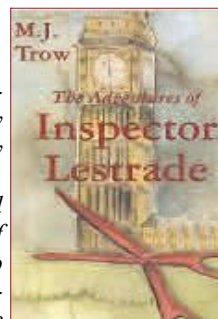
Paragraph 4 of the essay reads: "The name Lestrade probably is of French origin, though I have never attempted to trace my ancestry back beyond my grandfather who was a Thames waterman, while my father worked as a stevedore in the East India Docks. They always gave the name the Cockney pronunciation 'Lest-raid' 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!



From SOB Webmaster Stu Nelan

Forgot to tell you about Sherlock Bear! Daughter Kami came up to New York from D.C. for the Friday/Saturday events of BSI Weekend in January, and won him at the Gaslight Gala Friday evening. Here he is pictured in his temporary home in *our* library.



Thanks to our Techie Trio...Kashena Konecki, Dawn Kravagna and Airy Maher...



You can now *like* us on Facebook...

At: www.facebook.com/soundofthebaskervilles

and *follow us* on Twitter...

At: twitter.com/SeattleSherlock



and on Tumblr!!

At: <http://thesoundofthebaskervilles.tumblr.com/>



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 Adventuresses 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!!



From SOB Club Librarian Sheila Holtgrieve

A missive from the John H. Watson Society re: Weekly Quiz—2014-4, for January 14:

"Dear Daisy and Gwen: The reason I enjoy your responses is that they are always SO well-researched. This is truly a superb bit of work. I would like to have your permission to put it up on the website along with Denny Dobry's also excellently reasoned response. They are very different and both are totally supportable. You have 25/25. —Buttons."

SOB Margie Deck is "Gwen"; I am "Daisy". What Buttons posted is:

"The honors for perfect performance go to....our never-to-be-stumped team of Margie Deck "Gwen" and Sheila Holtgrieve "Daisy".

Editor's Note: A perusal of the Society's "Quiz" page shows that Team Quiz Honors have been won by Margie and Sheila for all 8 of the quizzes posted so far this year!!!

And their March 4 posting?
"Our members from Seattle's Sound of the Baskervilles, that intrepid Quiz Team Margie Deck and Sheila Holtgrieve have devised a fascinating quiz for our members. It is all about unpublished Canonical stories and events."

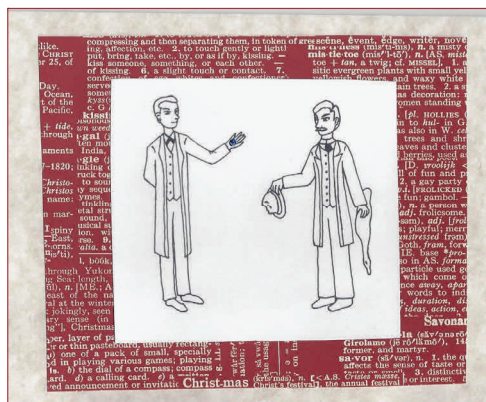
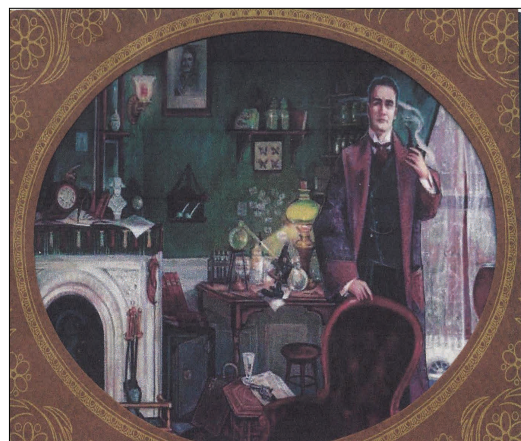
The Many Talented SOBs

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 Aïry 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*)!

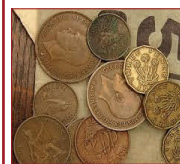
There seems to be little or nothing that Sherlockians—SOBs in particular—**CAN'T** do, if they put their "brain attics" and "lumber rooms" to it! Kudos!



From Sherlock Holmes Journal Editor Roger Johnson

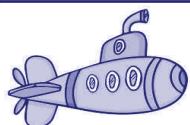
"Coin of the Canonical Realm" by Nicholas Utechin—published by the John H Watson Society (www.johnhwatsonociety.com); \$12.00 inclusive to USA addresses)—fills a noticeable gap.

The UK went decimal in 1971, but little has been done since then to indicate what 'old money' might buy in, say 1895, and what a particular sum might be worth in today's terms. This nice little book can benefit even those of us who remember pounds, shillings and pence. To those who never knew that arcane but serviceable system, it will be invaluable.





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Bruce-Partington Plans Trivia

- A series of TV movies produced in the early 2000s starred Matt Frewer as Holmes and Kenneth Welsh as Watson. One of these, "The Royal Scandal", adapted "A Scandal in Bohemia" and combined its story with "The Bruce-Partington Plans".
- "The Great Game", the third episode of the 2010 TV series *Sherlock*, uses several of Doyle's stories as inspiration, among them "The Bruce-Partington Plans". The story borrows many elements of the original story and is updated to the modern era. The victim here is an MI6 clerk named Andrew West, a nod to the original victim's name. Many of the other clues, like an unused train ticket and blood traces on a windowsill, are also used.

John (with Barbara) at our Monthly Meetings!



John & Barbara at the premier of the 2nd Downey, Jr. film.



Officials Beyond Reproach; Pursue the Foreign Agent!

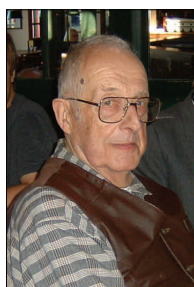
The May 18, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at **4:00 p.m.** at T.S. McHugh's Public House. **The social hour starts at 3:00!** The story to study is "The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans".

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 pages alone could enable one of Britain's enemies to build a Bruce-Partington submarine. ★ It appears that Cadogan West fell from a train and that he stole the plans meaning to sell them, but the mystery is truly complex. Cadogan West had ten years of service and a good record, and was known as being hot-headed but honest.

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, Wreath 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

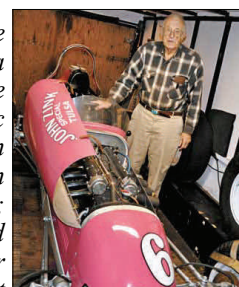
SOBs had to say: "We haven't seen them in a while but how sad. He was such an energetic SOB."; "I thought John was a wonderful person and he will be missed."; "Poor Barbara carried a huge load caring for him, but she would not have had it any other way. I send the Club my condolences for the lost of 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 Annual*" was delivered to attendees at our annual Masters' Dinner on March 1, and has now been mailed to Members 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 Membership is in good-standing (by continuous 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 Membership is in good-standing (by continuous 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@soundofthebaskervilles.com.

Those who read SOB Charlie Cook's

article in our 2010 *Beaten's Christmas Annual*—"The Sherlockian Pastiches of Edward D. Hoch"—agree that Charlie is very much a fan of Hoch's short stories. The *Beaten's* article gave Charlie's capsule summary of a dozen Hoch stories. Periodically, we treat our readers to Charlie's full review of each of those stories—**note his next review at right!** ⇒ ⇒ ⇒

(See April 2011; December 2011; February 2012; and December 2012 issues of *Ineffable Twaddle* for previous reviews!)

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; *Arthur Conan Doyle: A Life in Letters* ed. Jon Lellenberg, et.al.; *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; *Holmes 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 slipper 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 Bonoto'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.

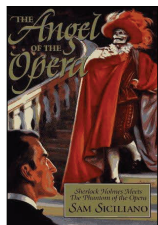
Mr. Hoch's stories appear in a plethora of anthologies as well as in various Ellery Queen Mystery Magazines from 1955 through 2008.



Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

• From SOB Ann Milam:

⇒ Check out <http://betterholmesandgardens.blogspot.com/2011/09/book-review-angel-of-opera-sherlock.html> for a review of **Sam Siciliano's "The Angel of the Opera: Sherlock Holmes Meets the Phantom of the Opera"** (Titan Books, March 2011). I came across it quite by accident. Their review does not make me want to go out and buy it.



⇒ 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: "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>. 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 BARQUE 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/, 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, iPod 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> ☆ 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/app/nn/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.

⇒ 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; 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>.

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!!



Masters' Dinner 2014

For a write-up of this event, please checkout our website at:

<http://www.soundofthebaskevilles.com/>



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/?php=true&_type=blogs&smid=fbnytmes&WT.zsma=](http://tmagazine.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/03/07/the-case-of-the-accidental-superstar/?php=true&_type=blogs&smid=fbnytmes&WT.zsma=TM_TCO_20140307)

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Or Google,

"The Case of the Accidental Superstar"





The Sound
of the
Baskervilles

By appointment
of Her Majesty,
Queen Victoria

Ineffable Twaddle

A monthly publication of
The Sound of the Baskervilles

A Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars since March 31, 1980
Serving the Greater Puget Sound Region of Western Washington

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The Sound of the Baskervilles is a scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars, serving the greater Puget Sound Region of Western Washington, U.S.A., and has met monthly since March 31, 1980.

\$20 per year brings Members the monthly newsletter "Ineffable Twaddle", a copy of Beaten's Christmas Annual, and the incalculable benefits of association with a group of certifiable Holmes aficionados.

Meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each month. Location of the meetings may vary. Regularly scheduled additional events throughout the year include: "The Master's Dinner" celebrating Holmes' birthday (January), "The Annual Wreath Throw" commemorating Holmes' loss at Reichenbach Falls (May), "The Dr. John H. Watson Picnic" (July), and "The Will Crakes Memorial Jollification" (December). Other activities—book crawls, teas, plays and gaming events—are as announced.

To join, send your check for dues—\$20 for individuals, \$30 for families (U.S. funds only)—to the address shown at left.

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 specified 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 investiture—a medal depicting Queen Victoria on a red, white and blue beribboned 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!!*"



Dates of Interest

• **SUNDAY,**

—DATE CHANGE—

April 13

Regular Monthly Meeting, Social = 3:00 p.m.;
Business = 4:00 at T.S. McHugh's

• **SATURDAY,**

May 3

OUR Annual Wreath Throw, 11:30 in Tum-water; see Page 3 for details and driving directions

• **SUNDAY,**

May 18

Regular Monthly Meeting, Social = 3:00 p.m.;
Business = 4:00 at T.S. McHugh's