



Ineffable Twaddle

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

—*The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*

The 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, USA



A Last Word from Doyle on STUD!

In STUD, Holmes is quite critical of Edgar Allan Poe's Dupin and Gaboriau's Lecoq, leading Watson to write, "I felt rather indignant at having two characters whom I had admired treated in this cavalier style." ☆ Critic Arthur Guiterman wrote a poem entitled: "To Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" complaining that Sherlock Holmes shouldn't say negative things about other fictional detectives when Doyle owed a lot to other authors' detective stories. ☆ So, Doyle published the following poem as a reply to Guiterman's criticism. It was first published in the London Opinion on 28 December 1912. ↗

To An Undiscerning Critic

Sure there are times when one cries with acidity,
'Where are the limits of human stupidity?'
Here is a critic who says as a platitude
That I am guilty because "in ingratitude
Sherlock, the sleuth-hound, with motives ulterior,
Sneers at Poe's Dupin as very 'inferior'."

Have you not learned, my esteemed
commentator, That the created is not the creator?
As the creator I've praised to satiety
Poe's Monsieur Dupin, his skill and variety,
And have admitted that in my detective work
I owe to my model a deal of selective work.

But is it not on the verge of inanity
To put down to me my creation's crude vanity?
He, the created, would scoff and would sneer,
Where I, the creator, would bow and revere.
So please grip this fact with your cerebral tentacle:
The doll and its maker are never identical."

—*Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*

Volume 36 Issue 8

August, 2017

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Remember:
Our 21st Annual
Dr. Watson
Picnic
It's Saturday,
July 29!



The day will begin at **9 a.m.** with breakfast treats and coffee at Seahurst Park. Lunch, games and fun will follow—we've got our shelter **until 2 p.m.** This is a pot-luck picnic, so please contribute food—salads, main dishes, chips, snacks, sweets—and beverages.

Famous Pastiche Crypto-Challenge

By: SOB Charlie Cook (Café Noir)

Note: No capital letters or punctuation marks are included, but "l" (elle) = "w"

wpiqmzf mlzknz rs mpz qfrnimz
krxz gx apzfkgrwu pgkyza
vt nrswzsm amiffzmm ra mpz
bsrjbz piykmz

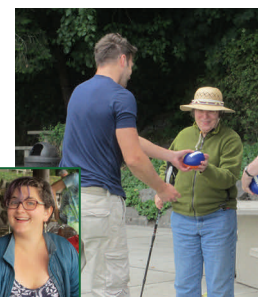
Answer may be found on Page 6.

GETTING TO SEAHURST PARK

for the Dr. John H. Watson Picnic Saturday, July 29, 9:00 to 2:00

From I-5, take Highway 518 westbound (Exit 154, near South Center Mall, where I-5 meets I-405).

When you get into Burien, Highway 518 turns into S. W. 148th Street. As you continue westbound, look for and turn right onto Ambaum Blvd. S.W. Proceed to S. W. 144th Street (the 2nd light) and turn left. Go 3 short blocks to 13th Avenue S.W. and turn right. This will take you right into the park—if you hit the water, you've gone too far! We will be in the south picnic shelter!



**Fun at
our 2016 Watson
Picnic!!!**

The Seattle Public Library on Queen Anne Hill is at 400 West Garfield



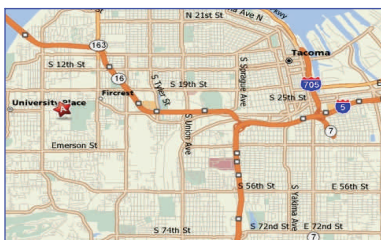
Library opens at 1:00, closes at 5:00. Come early, and catch up with your fellow SOBs!

Getting there:

From north- or southbound I-5, exit at Mercer Street and head west. Turn right on Queen Anne Avenue and head up the hill. At the 3-way stop sign at the top, turn left onto West Galer Street. At 4th Avenue, turn right. The library is one (1) block north on the northwest corner, at the cross with Garfield Street.

South Sound SOB Meeting Saturday, August 12!

For those who won't be able to make the Regular Monthly Meeting on August 20, please come to Haugens' home in University Place, 1 to 4 p.m. to enjoy the company of your fellow SOBs from the South Sound-area. Your contribution of food will be appreciated.



Last Call for Dues!!

Don't let your membership in The SOBs lapse!!



Payment of dues

for the April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 fiscal year are **now overdue.**

Mail your check **today** to **Treasurer Hank Deck** 1806—177th Street Court East, Spanaway, WA 98387. Cost is \$20 for individual membership; \$30 for a family!!

We hate to say "Goodbye" to you!! But, farewell for now!!

Interrupting Our Chronology with "A Study in Pink" Pilot

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at **1:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 20, 2017** at The Seattle Public Library (Queen Anne Branch) at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (*driving directions at left*).

Says **Program Manager SOB Margie Deck**: The SOBs seem to have had a theme of 'beginnings and endings' as 2017 has progressed. In addition to discussing the new chronology we are using to work our way through the Canon, we also spent some time in the early months of the year discussing the BBC *Sherlock* Series 4, the possible (*probable?*) end of the series, and the puzzlement (*disappointment?*) many of us had with the story arc the creators chose for Holmes and Watson.

As we have made our way through the initial stories in our chronology, *The Gloria Scott*, *The Musgrave Ritual*, *A Study in Scarlet*, and *The Speckled Band*, it is apparent that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle changed his trajectory with Holmes and Watson in many ways as well, as his story telling progressed.

Certainly Holmes and Watson are not the same people by the time of the events of SPEC as they were in STUD: they are a few years older, each is more confident in his role in the partnership, and, we, the fans, are also more confident in what we expect from an adventure featuring Holmes and Watson. As we know, readers did not become enamored with Holmes and Watson until the adventures began appearing in *The Strand*; *A Study in Scarlet* was not initially a success. As the editors of *The Sherlock Holmes Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained* note: "It is easy to find fault with *A Study in Scarlet*. The structure is clumsy and the mystery itself somewhat contrived, and the central villain Jefferson Hope is a fairly featureless character too."

Perhaps this explains why STUD is so rarely adapted for film. Although the origin of the Holmes and Watson partnership is wonderful—Stamford, Bart's, "You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive."—what does one do with the mystery in Brixton? This question must have loomed large when Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss first developed *Sherlock*, beginning with *A Study in Pink*, a 60-minute pilot for the new series. The pilot, written by Steven Moffat, starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman, never aired, and was ultimately reworked and re-shot entirely. As one critic noted, the original pilot was "more televisual" without the "cinematic quality for which the series is known." We know the creators had to change their thinking when BBC ordered the 90-minute, 3-episode structure, scrapping the original pilot.

This unaired pilot is interesting: It allows us to see how Moffat and Gatiss originally planned to tell the story of *A Study in Pink*, and what tone they originally planned to set for the series.

Please join us in August for a viewing of the original pilot—it is certainly different from *A Study in Pink* discussed in the past; perhaps most notably, the story is missing the Ms: no Mycroft, no Moriarty. The tone of the original pilot seems to be in sharp contrast to the tone of *The Final Problem* of Series 4; do you think that is a good or bad thing? Or, in fact, is the tone not really that different at all? Is it that the only real difference is television vs cinema? What do you think? As Mycroft said in the re-worked *A Study in Pink*: "Time to choose a side, Dr. Watson".

If you have a favourite snack or non-alcoholic beverage you'd like to share, please feel free to bring it along!

A Peek at "A Study in Pink" Pilot!

★ The "Rache" device is not used in the treatment of pilot. ★ In the pilot, Sherlock's flat is more his body as modern and slightly more organised than "transport" in "A Study in Pink", where it appears very for his mind dated and disorganised. ★ In the pilot's restaurant scene, it's implied that Sherlock hasn't eaten in a while. John asks if he's going to eat; pilot, the final standoff takes place in Sherlock's flat while in "A Study in Pink", it takes place in a large university hall.

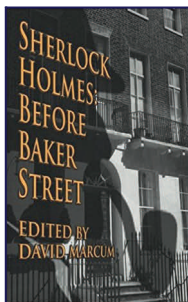


Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

⇒ **Asks SOB Ann Milam:** Good grief! What will they think of next? Mrs. Hudson's childhood?!

Not quite, but the theme of the new anthology edited by David Marcum, Sherlock Holmes: Before Baker Street comes close. Amazon's promo reads:

"Join some of the finest Sherlockian writers as they explore those early days Before Baker Street. Read about when Holmes was still a boy, learning from his older brother Mycroft or, later, when he had moved to London, living in Montague Street, just 'round the corner from the British Museum, waiting for the next adventure to begin...The Game is afoot!" (\$19.95, available on Kindle)



⇒ **From PFL David:** Out earlier this year was Holmes Away From Home: Adventures from The Great Hiatus also (see above) edited by David Marcum: An incredible two-volume collection of new traditional Holmes adventures which take place during the Great Hiatus (1891-1894). **Ed. Note:** Our own **SOB Sonia Fetherston, BSI** has written a story which is in the first volume of this collection; she also has an entry in the book About Sixty, describing why "A Case of Identity" is the best story in the Canon.

⇒ **From our friends at MX Publishing:** According to author Kim Kisco's Irregular Lives: The Untold Story of Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars (\$18.95), Sherlock Holmes' relationship with his band of street Arabs has largely been untold...until now. Indeed, some of Holmes' most bizarre cases involved the Irregulars: a hideous execution of a man who had been strapped to the barrel of a cannon, a fiend who hoped he could live forever on the blood of others, and the largest jewel robbery in Britain. Irregular Lives begins in post-WWI London, when Holmes visits a mysterious photography exhibit that has him recall adventures with Wiggins, Ugly, Kate and other members of his urban army. But, his reminiscences are merely a prelude to a thrilling adventure, when a jolly reunion with the Irregulars abruptly erupts in a terrible tragedy.

⇒ **From Jean Upton of the London Society's District Messenger:**

● Spoken arts label Cadabra Records has produced Bleak December's adaptation of The Hound of the Baskervilles. It features a full audio cast which showcases Sir Derek Jacobi as Sherlock Holmes. A deluxe vinyl-only release through Cadabra Records was due in late July in a limited run of 300 copies on 150-gram vinyl, packed in a deluxe heavyweight tip-on gatefold sleeve. The record features detailed liner notes by producer Anthony D.P. Mann of Bleak December and newly commissioned art by Adam Burke. For details and to order: www.cadabrarerecords.com

● London Society's Catherine Cooke has forwarded news that Baker Street and Gloucester Place will be returning to two-way traffic flow, as they were in Holmes' day. Work on Gloucester Place was due to start in late July, to be carried out in stages. Work on Baker Street is expected to commence early in January 2018. Over the next 18 months there will be temporary lane closures and turning restrictions—something to bear in mind if you're planning to

visit the area over the next year or so.

⇒ **Says SOB Associate Editor Lauren Messenger:** Stephen Moffet's and Mark Gattis' next project is reported to be a redo of "Dracula", probably for BBC TV. ★ **Anglicon 2017 "The Day of the Doctors"** is December 8 to 10 and will feature Peter Davison and Sylvester McCoy.

⇒ **SOB VP Kashena Konecki says:** Kareem Abdul Jabbar has penned a comic series, "Mycroft Holmes and The Apocalypse Handbook", following the adventures of Sherlock's older brother Mycroft Holmes. ★ **Sherlockian Chris Redmond's** sequel to last year's About Sixty, has contributors express their feelings and experiences about being a Sherlockian and is due in November. **Ed. Note:** Our own **VP Kashena** has an entry in this new tome!!

⇒ **The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia's President Fran Martin** sent the link to their newest Spring 2017 Petrel Flyer: <http://bit.ly/PetrelsSpring2017>

⇒ **From Peter Blau of the Spermaceti Press:**

● TransProse, created by Hannah Davis, is a computer program that translates text into music, based on the density of eight different emotions; she has generated music from literature that includes "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes", which you can listen to at: www.musicfromtext.com/novels.html.

● The now-immortal phrase "Elementary, my dear Watson" is first known to have been spoken by Sherlock Holmes in the film "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (1929), which starred Clive Brook and H. Reeves-Smith. The phrase also is found in P. G. Wodehouse's "Psmith, Journalist: His Adventures in New York" (which was serialized in The Captain: A Magazine for Boys and "Old Boys" in 1909-1910; Psmith murmured those words in the Jan. 1910 issue). The story was published as a book in 1915; read it on-line at Project Gutenberg at: www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/2607 ★ You possibly had read or heard that the now-immortal phrase was first used by William Gillette, but it's not to be found in any of the scripts for his play used or published during his lifetime. Holmes did say those words in the Royal Shakespeare Company's revival of Gillette's play in 1974; that script was published by Samuel French in 1976 and by Doubleday in 1977.

● Norwegian Explorer Julie McKuras has reported **Graphic 45**, a company that specializes in scrapbook and paper crafting; their products include a "Master Detective" collection (www.tinyurl.com/ycrj2xdm) that's attractive, colorful and nicely Sherlockian.

● **The Norwegian Explorers** are planning to hold their next triennial Sherlockian Conference in Minneapolis August 9 to 11, 2019, and you can get on their mailing list by contacting Julie McKuras at: mike9750@aol.com.

● "The Baskerville Affair" trilogy by Emma Jane Holloway offers an imaginative mix of steampunk and magic, featuring Evalina Cooper (niece of Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes) and a plot that involves romance, rebellion, sorcery, heroines, heroes (including her uncles), and villains, all in a Victorian alternative-universe England. Books in the series are...

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June SOB Meeting: Fun, STUD, Food...and Moss Roses!

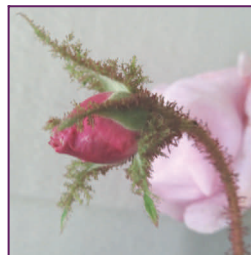


Says long-time **SOB Member Margaret Nelson (1995)**, "Each June I hope a Moss Rose will be in bloom in my garden to bring to the SOB meeting. Right now my own plant is not in bloom but I was able to get a few flowers from another garden to bring to our June meeting for show-and-tell and also to photograph."

In short, the 'moss' on Moss Roses is not ground-growing moss as we know it but glandular growths on the stem and sepals of the rose. This occurs to a much lesser extent on other rose varieties such as Gallicas, which do not have the quantity of 'moss' and thus are not specifically classified as Moss Roses, but do have that nice surprise additional scent of the moss.

In both rose cases, the moss has scented oils which are a little sticky, such that when you rub it, makes your fingers smell nice. The scents vary and can be piney, rose or other pleasant scents.

The Moss Rose was a sport (spontaneous, natural change) of a Centifolia rose and was first recognized in the late 1600s in Carcassonne, France. Centifolia roses have lots of petals, lots of thorns and terrific rose fragrance. They may have been grown as long ago as by the Romans, then been lost and re-discovered by the Dutch in the 16th and 17th centuries. Look at paintings of flowers by the Dutch masters to see more Centifolias.



Doyle referred to a Moss Rose in 'The Naval Treaty' probably because they were popular in Victorian gardens due to the scent, beauty and moss."

Adds SOB Associate Editor Lauren Messenger, "Wow! Those are great photos! I had never seen a Moss Rose



before. They're fascinating! I've certainly seen Centifolia roses in paintings (*though I probably would not have been able to name them before*), but Moss Roses are entirely new to me, and I'm glad to have learned about them. My grandfather used to cultivate roses, particularly English tea roses, but I suspect his garden never contained as unusual a rose variety as this one! The combination of scents sounds lovely. Thank you for sharing this!

⇒ This report and photos may also be viewed on the Home Page of The SOB website on at: <http://www.soundofthebaskervilles.com>

On This Date: July...

⇒ Notes SOB Board Member Emeritus Al Nelson

- On July 7, 1930, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle dies
- On July 21, 1967 Sherlockian stage and radio actor Basil Rathbone dies.
- On July 24, 1853 Sherlockian stage actor William Gillette is born.

⇒ As seen on the JHWS blog site; posted on 8 July, 2017

- On **July 8, 1837**, Mary Josephine Foley was born. She grew up with a strong role model in her mother, Catherine Pack Foley, who supported her young family after being widowed when Mary was three...In Edinburgh, to make ends meet, Mrs. Foley took in boarders. One of those boarders was Charles Altamont Doyle, then seventeen ...

Continued on Page 5

Mark your Calendar now!



The Stormy Petrels of BC are turning 30, SOB's are invited to help them celebrate!

- **Date:** Saturday, September 16, 2017
- **Time:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration begins at 9:30.
- **Location:** The Billy Bishop Pub (Legion), 1407 Laburnum Street, Vancouver; www.billybishoplegion.org; (604) 568-4130; west of Downtown Vancouver, across the Burrard Bridge; west on Cornwall, north on Laburnum
- **Cost:** \$30 CDN per person—*payable at the door*—for lunch and swag!
- **RSVP:** To Fran Martin at: franziskah@shaw.ca for more info and pre-registration by August 1st.
- **Accommodation:** Staying overnight? Consider the **Century Plaza Hotel**, 1015 Burrard Street; (604) 683-1399; centuryplazahotel.reservations.com.



The Geologists are Coming...Again!!!

The Geological Society of America's annual meeting is in Seattle October 22 to 25, 2017.

The Sherlockian subgroup "The Practical but Limited Geologists" will hold its semi-annual social as well—joined by The SOB's!

- **Date:** Wednesday, October 25th, 2017
- **Time:** 7 p.m. no-host cocktails • 8 p.m. no-host dinner
- **Location:** Elephant & Castle Pub & Restaurant, 1415 Fifth Avenue, Seattle
- **Cost:** Whatever you wish to spend on food and drink!
All are welcome, no RSVP required



The SOB's Host the 3rd International Sherlockian Summit in Mt. Vernon!

- **Date:** Saturday, November 4, 2017
- **Time:** 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Location:** Skagit River Brewery, 404 S. 3rd St, ([360] 336-2884), Mt Vernon, WA. (<http://www.skagitbrew.com>)
- **Cost:** Whatever you wish to spend on food and drink!
All are welcome, no RSVP required

Happy SOB Pictures



From Editor Terri
SOB Ann Milam
with PFL David, at
her community where
she invited us for
brunch in June!

From Editor Terri

SOB Geoff Jeffery with
PFL David, at Geoff's
granddaughter's June play,
which had the theme of
reading! The photo of
Doyle was a stage prop!

Also attending were SOB
Cara Cross, and Geoff &
Cara's other granddaughter,
SOB Erika!!



July, where
they discuss
Holmes' ability to
cross over
into Steam-
punk!



At right, we viewed
Seasons 1 & 2 of
John's Brass videos,
now available on
iTunes! To learn
more, go to: battle-groundproductions.org



From SOB Kate Nelson

Here's Dad (SOB Al Nelson)
in July capturing images at
Seattle's Wooden Boat Festival
in pen and ink and soaking up
lovely music !

*From SOBs Ginie & James
Romnes, with Patches at
Seahurst Park on 4th of July!*



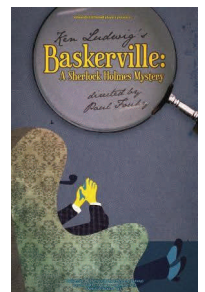
*"See everyone at Seahurst Park
again on July 29 for the
Dr. John H. Watson Picnic!"*

More...Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

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...A Study in Silks, A Study in Darkness, and
A Study in Ashes. The author's web-site at
www.emmajaneholloway.com provides an
interesting introduction to the series.

● Ken Ludwig's comedy "**Baskerville: A
Sherlock Holmes Mystery**" will appear at the
Wade James Theater in **Edmonds, WA.,
September 8 to 24**. In it, just 5 Edmonds Drift-
wood Players play 40 roles! For more: [https://
edmondsdriftwoodplayers.org/2017-2018-season/](https://edmondsdriftwoodplayers.org/2017-2018-season/)



On This Date:...

Continued from Page 4

...years old. In 1885, Mary Foley
and Charles Doyle were married.
Arthur Conan was their third child
and first son. Charles was a talent-
ed artist, but he was unstable and
developed a problem with alcohol.
He was eventually committed to
a mental institution.

Arthur took his role as "man
of the family" quite seriously, sup-
porting his mother and sisters. He
and his mother—he called her "the Ma'am"—remained
close, exchanging letters that reveal a loving relationship in
which he continued to look to her for advice.





The Sound
of the
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By appointment
of Her Majesty,
Queen Victoria

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Annual Dr. John H. Watson Picnic,
Saturday, July 29,
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Seahurst Park, Burien
Details on Page 1.
All are welcome!!

South Sound Meeting,
Saturday, August 12,
1:00 p.m. at Haugens'
(address above)
Details on Page 2.

Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday,
August 20, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library, Seattle
Details on Page 2.

Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday,
September 24, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library, Seattle

Member News & Notes

SOBs attending our July 16, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen, were:

Sheila Holtgrieve Al Nelson Terri Haugen
Cameron Brandon Alex Snow Margaret Nelson
Kashena Konecki Shannon Wallace
Lauren Messenger

● It was an intimate but lively group at the July Meeting! **Kashena's** scooter was stolen; **Terri** brought strawberry-rhubarb crisp; **Cameron** brought cute-squirrel videos! ☆ Everyone participated in the Quiz on Part II of STUD and several didn't even find the LBP ("long, boring part") at all boring! Results in the quiz were a tie for 1st place between **Margaret** and **Sheila**, with **Kashena**, **Cameron** and (scorekeeper) **Terri** (?!?) tying for 2nd!

● **Sheila** reported our **2017 JHWS Treasure Hunt Team** will consist of **SOBs Sheila, Margie Deck, Lauren Messenger** and **Francis Bond**, with **Charlie Cook** providing "consulting" support!! Good luck!!

● **Got an email from SOB Francis Bond** on July 6: "G'day, great to hear from you! Back in Singapore now, settling back to work. We had a lovely thunderstorm last night :-). I had some nice summer weather in Europe (after leaving Seattle) and am now back to the heat and humidity of the tropics. And he really liked the blog post that Webmaster Shannon put up on our website about the May SOB Meeting Francis chaired! Check it out!

● **SOB Geoff Jeffery tells us:** Sherlock Holmes is

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 Masters' Dinner" celebrating the meeting of Holmes and Watson (March), "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 or to renew your membership, send your check for dues—\$20 for individuals, \$30 for families (U.S. funds only)—to the address shown at left.

in Ashland this year, just not being done by the Shakespeare Festival! From **September 14 to November 5** the Oregon Cabaret Theatre in Ashland will present Ken Ludwig's "Baskervilles: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery". For more: oregoncabaret.com.

● **SOB Webmaster Shannon** got an update from "Sherlock Seattle" Con-Runner Mimi Noyes on July 16, with this: "Sherlock Seattle is going on hiatus. After much thought and consideration, it's been decided that Sherlock Seattle will not be throwing a convention in 2017. Sadly we lost approximately half of our existing staff due to a mix of burn-out and real-life commitments and then the BBC Sherlock fandom took a huge hit in the form of Season 4. We're looking for information so we can bring you the kind of content you want to experience. So please fill out our poll and then reblog, repost, share and spread the word about it! www.sherlock-seattle.org/survey We're always looking for people to make the magic happen! We need help creating events and, if it's in the cards, bringing back the Sherlock Seattle Convention in 2018. Interested in joining us? Please email us at: sherlock.seattle@gmail.com.

Answer to Crypto-Challenge appearing on Page 1

"The Unique Hamlet"
Sherlock Holmes by Vincent Starrett is
Chapter twelve in The Private Life of