

## Ineffable Twaddle

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

The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle





#### Volume 33 Issue 1 January, 2014

#### Jollification, Video Party, Master's Dinner...and More!!

#### Our Annual Will Crakes Memorial Jollification...

...on December 7 was lots of fun—held for the first time this year at Haugens' new home in University Place, WA!!

There was, of course, tons of food, a really lively bunch, and viewing of the 1927 interview with Sir Arthur—thanks to SOB Carrol Clemens.

Check out details and pictures at the Recent Events page on our website: www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/recent.html.

#### 80 CS

#### Video Viewing Party & Potluck!!!

SOB Margie Deck is 99 & 44/100% certain that she will have the U.K. version of "Sherlock: Series 3" from England on DVD in her hands by January 17, 2014 as a gift from the ways and means of an internet lurker that she does not understand or question, but is grateful to. That means, we should be able to have the Video Viewing Party & Potluck on Saturday, January 18—as outlined in the enclosed flyer!!! (No guilt about accepting this gift if thappens—as a pre-order purchase for the full season is already in the works.)

That means YOU have the ability to see the entire 3rd season a full 24-hours before the first episode will air in the U.S...with no PBS editing (read "shortening")!! This is unbelievable!!! And, an event not to be missed!!!

This is a potluck, so please bring food to share; Margie will provide paper products and soft drinks.

And, there'll be plenty of seating, but parking is limited, so please carpool if you can!!

PFL David will send a broadcast e-mail out on January 17 <u>ONLY IF</u> the event has to be cancelled!!!!! Please join us!!!

Need a ride? Please contact PFL David!! See Page 4 for contact info!!!

### Our 31" Annual Master's Dinner will be held on March 1, 2014!!

Club Members voted in 2013 to move our Annual Master's Dinner away from its traditional January spot on our calendar to a more weather-friendly March date.

Instead of celebrating the anniversary of Holmes' birth in 1854, we will instead celebrate the occasion of Holmes' and Watson's meeting in March of 1881. Toasts at this event will be welcome.

Mark your calendar now for **Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.** The location is a new one for us—a private room at Angelo's Italian Restaurant in downtown Burien, WA.

We'll be arranging a variety of choices for your eating pleasure, including vegetarian, for what we hope is an affordable \$25 / person. Alcoholic beverages will be available on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Angelo's has wonderful ambiance, ample free parking and great food, so please be sure to join us!

And, like all The SOBs' weekend events, it's a perfect occasion for you to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere and get to know your fellow Sherlockians even better!!

A flyer/registration form will be provided in next month's Twaddle, along with driving directions.

#### 80 03

#### PBS is the Place to Be in January

Many SOBs are already loyal PBS viewers and it was hit-or-miss in December, but January looks to be an especially Sherlockian-friendly month!!!

- Most Friday nights, you'll find episodes of the Jeremy Brett series on Tacoma's PBS channel, KBTC.
- In December, however, instead of airing the long-awaited "How Sherlock Changed the World", BOTH PBS channels in western Washington showed... Continued on Page 2

#### **Inside this issue:**

Jollification, Video Party Master's Dinnerand More!!	1
A Top Secret Case for Beekeeper Holmes!!	2
"How to Write a Christmas Show"	2
Things to See, Buy, Do & Know	3

#### **Says PFL David:**

Member News & Updates 4

At the *February 16, 2014 SOB Meeting*, we will not have a story discussion.

Since we have so many new Members, it might be time to discuss whether we are meeting the needs of both our new and our old Members.

We can't be all things to all Members, but we can certainly have *FUN* trying.



Let's see what we can come up with!!





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!

#### "Second Stain" Trivia

- Some scholars have speculated that the "foreign potentate" who wrote the missing letter was Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, whose foreign policy was controversial in Britain.
- Watson states that, due to Holmes' retirement, the detective has been trying to avoid publicity and only allowed Watson to publish the story because the doctor had "promised" to in "The Adventure of the Naval Treaty".

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**Holiday Greetings to The SOBs** & "Compliments of the Season" came from... **Stephen Adkins** Frank Bork (NY) Margie & Hank Deck Sheila Holtgrieve **Geoff Jeffery & Cara Cross** Dawn Kravagna Fran Martin (Vancouver, BC) Jean Macdonald Pat & Jim McIntosh Lauren Messenger Karen Murdock (MN) Al & Margaret Nelson John & Barbara Nelson Michael Phillips & Walter Chov Nancy & Manson Polley (CA) Maffie & David Rafferty Bill Seil **Lauran Stevens** 



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Contact Stu Nelan or Terri Haugen See Page 4 for contact info.

#### A Top Secret Case for Beekeeper Holmes!!

The January 19, 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 Second Stain". Says PFL David:

In our 39<sup>th</sup> tale (published in 1904), Lord Bellinger, the Prime Minister, and Trelawney Hope, the European Secretary, arrive at Baker Street. Trelawney Hope has lost a letter from a foreign ruler and, if that letter falls into the wrong hands, it could be used as an excuse to start a war. Holmes finally says that he doesn't see how he can help since there are really no clues. Holmes says he'll start by tracking down some spies he knows about to see if anyone is selling documents on the black market. Looking good is Eduardo Lucas. But things start to get difficult and confusing: Holmes' spy hunt does not go well. Lucas is dead! Lestrade, of course, arrests the wrong suspect. Trelawney Hope's wife comes calling at 221B! There's the wife of Parisian Henri Fournaye, and then "a pretty fainting lady" appears at the crime scene!!

How will Holmes unravel this one? Read <u>The Adventure of the Second Stain</u> to find out!!

## Jollification, Video Party, Master's Dinner... Continued from Page 1

...a special on Nelson Mandela, honoring his recent death. We now have it on good authority that KCTS will air "How Sherlock Changed the World" on January 12 at 10:00 p.m., while KBTC will show it on January 18 at 6:00 p.m.!!

- For you Edwardians, a new season of "Downton Abbey" starts in early January. But, for us Sherlockians, "Sherlock: Series 3" begins on KCTS on Sunday, January 19 and repeats on KBTC beginning January 26.
- KCTS is broadcasting a 3-part (weekly) series called "Queen Victoria's Children", beginning on Sunday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m. Says their promo: "Spanning 60 years, this family saga tells a tale of manipulation, conflict, intimidation, emotional blackmail and fevered attempts by Victoria's children to escape the clutches of their domineering and needy mother. The series draws on the written material and photographs the family left behind to bring the characters and complex relationships to life." Says PFL David: "This program may forever change the way we look at England's longest reigning monarch."
- Running January 8 through January 22 is a 3-part (weekly) series titled "Chasing Shackleton", which follows a modern expedition that re-creates Sir Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic expedition in a replica of the original explorers' lifeboat in which, in the face of almost certain death, Shackleton saved the lives of 27 men stranded more than 500 days.

#### "How to Write a Christmas Show"

Thanks to **SOB Pat McIntosh** for passing on the "Arts & Culture" section of the November 27/December 3 issue of the Seattle Weekly! In it is an article by our own playwright & **SOB John Longenbaugh** titled, "How to Write a Christmas Show for Fun and Profit. Especially Profit, (subtitled) Sick of holiday shows? So was I, until I wrote one. And so can you."

John, of course, refers in the article to his very successful "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol", which has had six showings in the past three years, breaking box-office records at Taproot in Seattle and Artist's Rep in Portland. This year it is enjoying three more productions, including an English provincial tour, and has just been published in book format!!

While bringing him the best reviews of his life, says John, "...the most unusual thing about the show was that it made the companies a lot of money...(which can be) a godsend to financially strapped theater companies, whose Christmas cash cows subsidize those daring Icelandic mime troupes during the next season."

John's advice to readers: When it comes to Christmas plays, the gloves are off; manipulate wherever possible...Don't dip into the shallow end of the holiday canon...Don't be too churchy...Include music...Do include orphans...and...Don't duck the holiday clichés.

(A copy of John's article is being added to the Club's Lending Library!)



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

• From SOB of Unknown Identity: Apologies from your Editor, but the identity of this news item's contributor has been lost forever!! Sarawen Perfumes is offering a set of four Sherlock Holmes-inspired fragrances for \$48.50. The items are titled "Logical Delusion", "Logical Deduction", "Scandal in London", and "Tea with Watson". A sample set of the four is available for \$15.50. For more, go to: <a href="http://sarawen.bigcartel.com/">http://sarawen.bigcartel.com/</a>

• From SOB Sheldon Gloger: For several weeks, the Portland Tribune carried a full-page ad promoting The International Exhibition of

Sherlock Holmes". Clues were given, contest entry forms were provided, and prizes include a VIP trip to OMSI for "you + 7



of your closest Sherlockian friends"! I learned there's a British tea room in Lake Oswego, a cigar & tobacconist in Happy Valley, and The Dinner Detective—an interactive murder mystery dinner venue—in Portland!!

- From Our British Columbia friend Don MacLachlan: The game is afoot for a Christmas gift in my new book, "The Adventure of the Bloody Tower" (\$18.50, but available through Amazon for \$16.65). Dr. Watson investigates (in 1883) the facts and fictions of the reign of England's King Richard III (1483-85). Murderer of his nephews, the Two Little Princes in the Tower? Or a good king who produced laws that are still in effect? (Editor's Note: Don is a long-time member of the Vancouver, B.C. Sherlockian group, The Stormy Petrels, and a member of the local Richard III Society here in the Puget Sound area. This is his first book.)
- From SOB PFL David: SOB
  Terry Burns wants to know if there is a jigsaw puzzle on the market that, once completed, shows 221B's sitting

room. Has anyone seen such a thing? If so, send me details and we'll them pass on to everyone!

- From SOB Thom Walls: Looks like Les Klinger won his suit against the Doyle estate!! Check it out at: www.ihearofsherlock.com/2013/12/plaintiff-victorious-in-free-sherlock.html#.Ur3yNbTAHIR
- From MX Publishing:
- ⇒ "The Immortals: An Unauthorized Guide to Sherlock and Elementary" by Matthew J. Elliott and Luke Benjamen Kuhns (\$16.95) is a comprehensive episode-by-episode review of the two TV series by Holmes-expert Matthew Elliott. His

unique approach tackles each episode and links back elements to the original stories, reviews plotlines, characters and good and bad points. Elliott is one of the leading Holmes experts in the UK—regularly publishing articles and speaking at major Holmes events. So whether you are a fan of either or both series, or in fact a detractor, you will find Elliott's analysis of the series compelling reading.

⇒ In "Sherlock Holmes and The Black Widower" by Kieran McMullen (\$16), Holmes has to investigate a potential serial killer—one who has murdered three wives. Not so unusual—except the accused is one Dr. John H. Watson. A gripping and sure-to-be-controversial thriller, and arguably McMullen's best so far.

#### From Peter Blau:

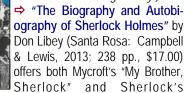
SHERLOCK

HOLMES

⇒ Jack Tracy, when he died in 1996, left behind many frustrated customers, as well as a wealth of interesting stories. Many of those stories can be found in Phil

Dematteis' "The Strange Life and Death of Jack Tracy"—a paper Phil delivered at a recent meeting of The Hansom Wheels and available at their website: hansomwheels.com/jack\_tracy\_1.htm. (A

copy of this article is being added to the Club's Lending Library!)



"Montague Notations". Just as Sherlock showed that there's a great deal of invention in Watson's writings, Mycroft explains that his brother is similarly unreliable.

#### From Sherlock Holmes Journal Editor Roger Johnson:

- ➡ I have great praise for "The Invention of Murder" by Judith Flanders (2011) and "A Very British Murder" by Lucy Worsley. Though neither is Sherlockian, both are about the British popular fascination with murder. "The Invention of Murder" is rightly recommended as the fuller, more comprehensive study, and "A Very British Murder" makes an admirable companion volume.
- ⇒ Disconcerting news passed on by Steve Emecz regarding AudioGO (the company that used to be BBC Audiobooks): "AudioGO's head of marketing and sales, told *The Bookseller*, 'I can confirm that AudioGO has temporarily suspended business operations whilst we seek an investment or a sale of the business." (A US source for them says to go to downpour.com for orders.)

# Beaten's Christmas Annual Submissions...are due no later than the January 19 Meeting!!

Contact Secretary & Editor Terri Haugen, if you need assistance with your submission.

Text in *Word* is preferred. As all will be reformatted, font size and style and linespacing are not critical to your submission.



Contact Terri at:

terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com

Get updates on all the SOBs' recent events at
The SOBs' website!!!

Go to: http://www. soundofthe baskervilles.com/ recent.html



#### Three More New Members!

At the next available opportunity, be sure to introduce yourself to these new Members!



**Dr. Sharon Duncan** of Redmond, WA who found us on the internet and joined in late November!

**Beatrice Roy**, who's a neighbor of Haugens, came to the December Meeting and joined!

Angela Segarra, who's a co-worker of Kashena Konecki's, came to the December Meeting and joined!

Welcome, Ladies! You are now

welcome, Ladies! You are no officially SOBs!!!



Beatrice with "naughty" Santa DC Smith



# The Sound of the Baskervilles

By appointment of Her Majesty, Oueen 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

\$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.

# 31

#### Dates of Interest

SUNDAY,

January 19
Regular Monthly
Meeting, Social =
3:00 p.m.;
Business = 4:00 at
T.S. McHugh's,
including toasts
and celebration
of Holmes' 160<sup>th</sup>
birthday!!!

February 14
Happy

FRIDAY

Valentine's Day!!

• SUNDAY,

February 16

Regular Monthly

Meeting, Social =
3:00 p.m.;

Business = 4:00 at

T.S. McHugh's

#### **Member News & Updates**

SOBs attending our December 15, 2013 SOB Meeting, presided over by **PFL David Haugen** were:

John Longenbaugh
Vivika Sundqvist
Kashena Konecki
Dawn Kravagna
Lauren Messenger
Michelle Poitevin

Pat McIntosh Terri Haugen
Hank Deck Margie Deck
Airy Maher Eli Edwards
Stephen Adkins DC Smith
Lauran Stevens Jim Nagle
Sheila Holtgrieve Sheldon Gloger

We met guests Beatrice Roy-a neighbor of Haugens—and Kashena's pal Angela Segarra—who also works at Children's Hospital!! Welcome to you both!! Sheldon had joined in November 2012, but this was his first regular meeting! He lives in Portland and came up on the Cascades train! He promised to send us a write-up of his rail trip and a review of his stay at the Marqueen Hotel across Mercer from McHugh's!! ☆ It was great to see Michelle after a long absence!! Son Gabe is off studying at Wazoo. So she guit her job, moved to Shoreline and is attending Shoreline Community College, where she's adding practical courses in nursing to her U-Dub education, heading into the healthcare field!! \* The group was up to the challenge of Lauran S.'s guiz on animals in The Canon! Airy took 1st place and John L. took 2nd!! ★ In the PFL's quiz on BLUE, Stephen took 1<sup>st</sup> place, Sheila took 2<sup>nd</sup> and Jim took 3<sup>rd</sup>! Kudos all!!! \* Kashena continues to recover from her leg burn, and Sheila looked rested after taking the month off...so the Club Lending Library had lots of activity. We had Christmas cookies coming out our ears everyone was so generous. We snacked during

breaks, took some home, and gave the rest to the Staff of McHugh's!! And, DC showed up in his Seafair Pirate costume, having just come from playing "naughty" Santa at a Pirates' event—bearing cookies and lollipops!! Season 3 of "Sherlock" will begin airing on PBS on Sunday, January 19!!!

- Several newer **SOBs** have selected their Canonical alter-ego names. Remember: You may choose any person, place or thing found in The Canon, so long as: a) you don't choose, Holmes, Watson or Irene Adler, and b) someone else in the Club hasn't already claimed that "title"!! All Canonical alter-ego names are recorded on The SOB Membership List, distributed once per year (after we close the books on our March 31 renewals!!).
- SOB Margaret Nelson was so pleased about the small gift give-away at the Will Crakes Memorial Jollification on December 7, she wrote to suggest that every SOB event could include such give-aways of Members' valued, but no longer needed treasures! PFL David did just that at the December Meeting, handing out past years' illustrations by SOB Stu Shiffman! Feel free to bring your treasures for sharing at any future SOB event!
- SOB Dawn Kravagna suggests—for those interested—that we set-up a sharing of Members' twitter contact info and blog sites! If you have them, e-mail your info to Secretary & Editor Terri (address above), and we'll begin putting you all in contact!!