



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

21st Annual Watson Picnic

Come one, come all to the **Annual Dr. John H. Watson Picnic!! It's Saturday, July 29!**

The day will begin at **9:00 a.m.** with breakfast treats and coffee at Seahurst Park. Lunch, games and fun will follow—we've got our shelter **until 2:00 p.m.**

Seahurst Park is a gorgeous site, nestled in a residential area, right on the Sound! And, it couldn't be more centrally located: Burien is west of I-5 from Exit 154, which puts it midway between Seattle and Tacoma and makes it handy for those on the Eastside too!



This is a pot-luck picnic, so please contribute food—salads, main dishes, chips, snacks, sweets—and beverages. *Please bring any special utensils you need! And, many thanks!*



Haugens will provide the forks, spoons, knives, plates, cups and napkins for all!! **Picnic Chair SOB Paul Williams will have the barbie going, so bring your meat and vegetarians beware!!**

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!

Continuing Our Study of

STUD...A Quiz on Part II of "A Study in Scarlet"

By: **SOB Charlie Cook (Café Noir)**
"The Country of the Saints"

1. What two things were called "the common characteristic of barrenness"?
2. On what date did this Adventure in the desert begin?
3. Name the two individuals the Mormons found when crossing the desert!

4. Name the two Mormons, one of whom expected to marry The Flower of Utah; and how many wives did each one already have?



5. How did Jefferson Hope describe himself when he returned from the gold fields?

6. What is the significance of the date August 4, 1860?

7. Give the address where Jefferson Hope was to pick up his final fare.

8. Why was Jefferson Hope convinced that he would never stand trial for his crimes?

9. What one word did Watson use to describe the professional detectives' attitude in all details of crime?

10. Complete the Sherlock Holmes quote, "What you do in this world is a matter of no consequence...".

11. How did Holmes say *fifty can reason to how only one can*; and, how did he reason in order to solve this case?

12. According to Holmes, what two cases of poisoners would occur at once to any toxicologist?

Answers may be found on Page 3.

Volume 36 Issue 7

July, 2017

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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.

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!! And, thank you!!

Need a Shot of the Good Doctor's Brandy?

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at **1:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 16, 2017** at The Seattle Public Library (Queen Anne Branch) at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (*driving directions at left*).

Says **Program Manager SOB Margie Deck**: We'll finish "A Study in Scarlet" with the reading of Part I, Chapter 7 and Part II, Chapters 1-7.

PFL David left us at a crucial point in Watson's narrative, *A Study in Scarlet*, last month with these chilling words: "The Secretary, Mr. Joseph Strangerson," said Lestrade gravely, "was murdered at Halliday's Private Hotel about six o'clock this morning." Obviously, as Holmes noted, "The plot thickens."

The SOBs must find some light in the darkness at our July meeting with the remaining chapter of Part I, and the always somewhat ill-fitting Part II, "The Country of All Saints", otherwise known, in SOB parlance, as the LBP ("the long, boring part").

The third-person-narrated first five chapters read like a tale of the American frontier where much of the action takes place, as noted by Chris Redmond in his *Sherlock Holmes Handbook, 2nd Ed.*, "on the 'great alkali plain' of western America, a region unknown to geography...". Despite the desert exaggeration, and perhaps several others by our unnamed narrator, the story of the Ferriers and Jefferson Hope is necessary to understand the crimes of *A Study In Scarlet*. Luckily for us, and our PFL, the story resumes in Baker Street for the two final chapters, where Holmes fittingly sets a trap and Dr. Watson finds his voice again. The SOBs might need a shot of the good doctor's brandy after all this—we hope you come along for the ride.

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

Update on Sherlock Seattle Convention Probabilities

Says **SOB Associate Editor Lauren Messenger**: I wanted to pass along info from Mimi Noyes, regarding the *Sherlock Seattle* convention. There aren't plans for a full-scale convention in the near future, but Mimi hopes to organize other group activities. Thought I'd pass this on, in case other SOBs want to get involved or offer more suggestions. Says Con-Runner Mimi:

"Shannon Wallace (our convention set designer and SOB webmaster) and I have some ideas for smaller events in hopes of gathering new interest and new folks and volunteers to the cause:

- BBC *Sherlock* sleepover—watch our favorite episodes; remember the good times or watch the worst episodes and mock them!
- Sherlock themed murder mystery event or escape-the-room type event.
- Hook-up with Anglicon—do some programming there and/or promoting our group.
- *Sherlock* Theater? Maybe we write a play? Make a silly video? "*Sherlock the Musical*"?
- Sherlock reading circles—people pick out their favorite stories and read them aloud.
- Sherlock roundtables—much like we did at the mini-convention, people come up with

topics they want to talk about; we set up roundtable discussions once a month.

- Movie screenings—if enough people are interested we could rent out a theater; if not, in-home movies or wherever we can find the space.
- Create games like scavenger hunts where the players have to find clues hidden in different locations in order to solve the mystery.
- Sherlock Bingo—where we watch an episode/*Sherlock* movie with bingo cards with different tropes/clichés on them. Then we wait for the trope to happen and the icons on our bingo cards to pop up on the screen. **Ed. Note: The SOBs have Sherlock-o!!**
- Sherlockian picnics and/or barbecues. **Ed. Note: The SOBs' next Picnic is July 29!**

I'm sure, with your help, we can come up with many more ideas for fun things to do! So if this is something that you want to be a part of, please email me to let me know at: sherlock.seattle@gmail.com. If you know anyone you think would enjoy being a part of this, please forward this info to them.



Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

⇒ **The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia's President Fran Martin** sent the link to their most current **Petrel Flyer**: <http://bit.ly/Petrels16-17>

⇒ **SOBs John Longenbaugh and PFL David** were on a **Sherlockian panel on July 1 at Gearcon2017**, a Steampunk conference in Portland, OR.

⇒ **From SOB James Romnes:**

● Here's an image from the **Sporting and Theater Journal in November 1912**. It is from a production of Shakespeare's "12th Night" staged at the Savoy. The bearded fellow should be vaguely familiar. Add 20 years and a pipe and voila! No, not Jeremy. Nope, not Basil either. It's Arthur Wontner!!



● I attended the gun show this spring for the Washington Arms Collectors in Puyallup and a vendor asked my help evaluating an item. **His family has had for years a handwritten letter, signed by Conan Doyle.** ★ "Huh?" I said expecting the usual...something about spiritualism. That's about all that's still out there—everything else being snapped up by institutions or jazillionaires. ★ Nope. The letter was "thanks for hospitality at the family inn"...in Switzerland. The family?? The Reichenbachs!! ★ The vendor, Richard Reichenbach will allow me to photograph said letter and interview him, and I see nothing but a very fine article coming from this!!

⇒ **Says SOB Cameron Brandon:** There's an **excellent article, titled "How Sherlock Holmes Could Restore Faith in Science"** about the hot-button issue of science and Sherlock Holmes at this link: <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/878529> This doctor has an excellent quote about Holmes: "Reading one Holmes story, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, would help the public understand what science entails. In my view, Conan Doyle's description of a systematic approach to crime-solving elucidates the principles of the scientific method. Holmes would notice something, posit an explanation, gather data, and if it fit the explanation, then mystery solved. If the data didn't fit, he would revamp his hypothesis. That is the scientific method. That is the medical diagnostic method."

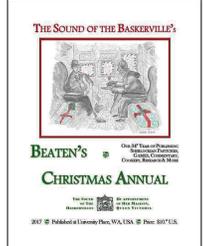
⇒ **From our friends at MX Publishing: The Trials of Sherlock Holmes** by James Moffett (\$14.95, also out on Kindle) opens on a cold London morning in 1887, and the discovery of a dead man in an abandoned house plunges Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson into a series of eight trying cases that will test the friendship of the two companions and threaten the safety of the country itself.

⇒ **SOB Bill Seil tells us:**

● If you are interested in mysteries, not just Sherlock Holmes, you might attend **Left Coast Crime**. "Crime on the Comstock" will be in Reno, NV, from March 22-25, 2018. "Whale of a Crime" will be in Vancouver, BC, from March 28-31, 2019. Both are now open for buying memberships. In Canada, Sue Grafton will receive a Lifetime

Calling all Writers, Puzzlers, Poets, Illustrators, Scribblers, Cooks and Jokesters! Serious or silly, it's all good!

Do you want to see your essay, story, review, pastiche, cartoon or research work published?



- To appear in our annual magazine-style **Beaten's Christmas Annual**, there is no limit on the number of words contained in your work!!
- Submissions are taken at year-end—with text preferably in Word and images in JPEG formats.
 - For inspiration, we suggest you review old issue(s) of **Beaten's**. Contact any Board Member (listed on Page 6) for back issues.

To appear in our 2018 issue of **Beaten's Christmas Annual—our 35th year of publication**—the deadline is Sunday, December 31, 2017.

Please send queries and submissions to Editor Terri Haugen or Associate Editor Lauren Messenger at:

terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com
laurenmessenger.museums@gmail.com

Achievement Award.

● **Actor Roger Moore passed away in late-May.** He was best known for his years as James Bond, but he also should be honored by Sherlockians. In 1976 he played Sherlock Holmes in a made-for-television movie, *Sherlock Holmes in New York*, with Patrick MacNee as Dr. Watson, Charlotte Rampling as Irene Adler and John Huston as an unapologetically American-Irish accented Professor Moriarty.



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

● Gyles Brandeth's newest book, **Jack the Ripper – Case Closed** (no U.S. publisher yet) is the 7th in his excellent series. This time, Doyle is the narrator, writing in 1924 about events that begin on New Year's Eve, 1893...The story really whips along, and what initially appear to be red herrings or pointless detours inevitably turn out to be crucial to the case...I am not a Ripperologist, but I suspect that the solution is going to surprise many readers.

Continued on Page 5

Answers to Quiz on "STUD" on Page 1

1. Inhospitality and misery
2. The fourth of May, 1847
3. John Ferrier and a girl
10. "The question is what can you make people believe that you have done?"
11. Synthetically; analytically; backwards
12. Dolsky of Odessa and Leturrier in Montpellier
7. 221B Baker Street

Readers Comment on SOBs' 37th

The Sound of the Baskervilles marked their 37th year of continuous operation as a scion society of the BSI on March 31, with a celebratory tea on March 11, 2017. Congrats and well-wishes came from many of our members and friends:

Hello, SOBs! Congratulations on your 37 years. So sorry that The Vamberry Wine Merchants can not join you for your celebration. We did so enjoy our trip to Mt. Vernon last November and hope to do it again.

—**Dru Weiland, Empress for Life (Portland, OR)**

I'd hop a plane and buzz right over, but it's a long way to go to hear "APRIL FOOL!" Other than that: Congratulations and Happy Birthday, SOBs! Ah to be a kid again. I was just 44 when you were born.

—**SOB Charlie Cook (Sumter, SC)**

I so very much wish that I could be there for this. Happy birthday, SOBs! You wear your maturity well!

—**SOB John Longenbaugh (Seattle & Portland)**

Wow—37 years! You must have been in grade school when the SOBs started! Really looking forward to the next Beaten's—next month will be a double treat with the newsletter coming also. All best,

—**SOB Ann Milam (Seattle, WA)**

I am so envious of your event and my not being there. Am flying home from San Antonio that day. Enjoy!

—**SOB Kathleen Dunlap (Lexington, VA)**

What a great run, and more stimulating years to come! The success for this record is due in large part to all the work and dedication from volunteers! Thank you for all you do; you are the best! Have a wonderful celebration!

—**SOB Paul & Marcia Naher (Kansas City, MO)**

Congratulations on your birthday...coincidentally, we turn 47 next month (April) also. You're like our little brother...or sister...with regards,

—**Steve Mason (The Diogenes Club, Dallas, TX)**

Mark your Calendar now!



The Stormy Petrels of BC are turning 30, SOBs 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; century-plazahotel.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 SOBs!

- **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 SOBs 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

PFL Haugen Opines on the Word "Crop" in BLUE

As directed to the Sherlockian E-Times and appearing in Vol. 17, May 2017, No. 5

Just a couple of thoughts on the continuing problems with the use of the word "crop" in BLUE. I have never had any difficulty with the use of it in that Adventure. It is important to remember that the first person to use the term is Commissionaire Peterson who says "'See here, sir! See what my wife found in its crop!' He held out his hand...". Holmes then simply repeats the description several more times in the story. After all, as Holmes said in FIVE, "I say now, as I said then, that a man should keep his little **brain attic** stocked with all the furniture that he is likely to use...". I would like to think that the digestive system of a goose is not something he felt

would arise often enough to take up space in that attic. The important thing was that the Blue Carbuncle was lodged inside the goose, it mattered little where that location might have been. ☆ That being said, I am ever impressed with all the research that has gone in to proving that the use of the term was correct. My thanks to all who have labored toward that end. Not wanting to spend that much time on the issue myself, this is how I solved the problem.



—*Yours in Sherlock, David*

Happy SOB Pictures



From SOB Ginie Romnes

“Rambo” James in Las Vegas



James tastes his “3 Howls” Scotch at Christmas



Welcoming Spring with a Minion and flowers from her garden.



From SOB Marcia Marcy, breakfasting in Tokyo this past spring

The tall pastry is a croissant like pastry with cream in the center topped with icing and a chocolate ladybug and flowers. The chocolate donut looking pastry is the same flaky butter consistency of a croissant topped with fancy looking cereal.

From SOB Cara Cross

Our grandkids in our garden. From left, Christopher, Isaac, Carlos, our actress Annika, our other SOB Member Erika, and Gunner



From Editor Terri
PFL David on our trip to San Francisco with Vallejo, CA SOB Ann Deussenberry



From Editor Terri's pal Myra

Below, seen by SOBs Al & Margaret Nelson in Tacoma



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

Continued from Page 3

● I'm always delighted to discover new sources of Sherlockian gifts, and recently came across **The Literary Gift Company**. Carrying items inspired by many authors, they offer a very good selection of unusual and creative gifts related to both Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes. Their SH women's socks are high quality, and the SH temporary tattoos could be amusing to show off at a summer party. I especially like their Map of Fictional London, which is a good test to see if your knowledge of the streets could rival Holmes's. The website provides the ability to search items according to author, key word, title or genre, and it's well worth a look. I spotted items that I've certainly not seen elsewhere. Go to www.theliterarygiftcompany.com

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

● **Not all books with Sherlock Holmes in the title are Sherlockian:** Irish Eyes: The Dark Beginnings of Sherlock Holmes and In the Footsteps of Sherlock Holmes: Studies in the Biblical Text in Honour of Anneli Aejmelaeus have **nothing** to do with Holmes.

● Further to the report about a **manga edition of “Sherlock: A Study in Pink”** from **Titan Comics**, the series will continue with “*Sherlock: The Blind Banker*” in October, and then “*Sherlock: The Great Game*” (all based on the BBC *Sherlock* TV series). **Ed. Note:** **Adds SOB Airy Maher**, “*The authors stays true to the BBC stories and dialogue; the illustrations are good, but Holmes looks to me like an alien!*”

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



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

Ineffable Twaddle

The 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, USA

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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 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.



Member News & Notes

⇒ SOBs attending our June 4, 2017 South Sound Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen, were:

Catherine Bancroft Ann Stevens Terri Haugen
 Geoff Jeffery Cara Cross

● We were a small group but had a bunch of fun, especially with our quiz on "A Study in Scarlet"! PFL David noted that this story shows the very first instance of Doyle's use of the word, "**Surely**"!! Wow! It was also noted that July 27 is the anniversary of the Battle of Maiwand, which we might make note of at our Watson Picnic on July 29!! There was a 3-way tie for 1st on the Quiz, amongst **Catherine, Ann and Geoff!**

⇒ SOBs attending our June 18, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen, were:

Sheila Holtgrieve Elaine Kellner Al Nelson
 Cameron Brandon Terri Haugen Alex Snow
 Lauran Stevens Matt Kellner Hank Deck
 Margaret Nelson Airy Maher Margie Deck
 Shannon Wallace Larry Raisch Marcia Marcy
 Melinda Michaelson Chris "Bear" Berwald
 Melanie "Mel" Briganti John Longenbaugh

● **Larry** brought daughter and son-in-law Elaine & Matt for Father's Day! ★ Everybody participated in the Quiz on STUD, resulting in a 5-way tie for 1st amongst **Larry, Sheila, John, Airy** and **Alex!**

● Got a postcard in mid-April solving the mystery of "Where's **Airy** been?"! She was in Spain for 2 weeks visiting her Mom and family. ★ For those without email, **SOB Charlie Cook** emailed in late April to let us know this about granddaughter, Nadia: "**SOB**

Nadia Alexander was just awarded best actress in a movie at the NYC Tribeca Film Festival for 2017! Wheel!" ★ Got an email in early May from **John L** saying, "I'm moving this summer to Portland. I'll miss all of my Seattle friends, though I'll be coming back on a fairly regular basis to follow up on several artistic projects as well as visit. I plan to keep up my SOB membership and, hopefully, will make it to even more meetings than I've managed this past year!" ★ Got an email in mid-May solving the mystery of "Where's (SOB) **Sunny (Even)** been?"! Family care needs have become her first priority since her Mom moved here from Maryland. ★ Got an email in mid-June from **SOB Picnic Chair Paul Williams**, reconfirming the date for our Watson Picnic, and noting he's "now retired and enjoying it!" We sure hope to see more of him in the future!! ★ Got a call from long-time (1985) **SOB Pat Connelly** with grateful thanks to all for the "get well" wishes! We'd learned just last month she's still recovering from a fall she had last September! Keep those cards comin'!

Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, July 16, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library, Seattle
Details on Page 2.

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!!

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

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

★ THIS IS A CHANGE! ★



Another New Member!!

Joining us in mid-June was **Patricia "Patt" Gamino-O'Neil**, from Olympia, WA!! She's been following our SOB Facebook feed for ages, so she's no stranger to our activities! Credit for this recruitment to our Facebook Administrator, VP Kashena!!
Welcome, Patt!!