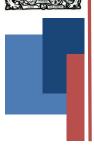


# Ineffable Twaddle

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

—The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle



The monthly publication 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



### Watson Picnic is Back and We're Excited!!

liams, we'll be back in the south shelter at right on the Sound! beautiful Seahurst Park in Burien on Saturday, July 28!! The formal running time of to provide our game that day: a repeat of our Dr. John H. Watson Picnic is 9:00 a.m. his "Uncle James: Did you miss me?"—a to 2:00 p.m., but parking is always at a variation on the British game "Aunt Salpremium and you may be forced to park ly", which dates back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. further away from our shelter—so get And, watch out because 2-time trophy there early!!

Please bring enough food—salads, main back on deck!! dishes, side dishes. chips. sweets—and beverages to share, as this is going, and SOB Chris "Bear" Berwald has a potluck event! And, if you're bringing a dish that needs special utensils, please time off! Bad bring those as well!!

PFL David and Terri will again bring no balloons, no plates, napkins, cutlery and drinking glass- booze permitted! es, and—for those arriving early—fresh coffee and breakfast sweets!

Burien and Seahurst Park are easy to and your friends!! get to from all points north, south, east

Thanks to Committee Chair Paul Wil- and west! And this Park is a gorgeous site,

PFL David has recruited SOB Al Nelson winner Cameron Brandon will probably be

**Great News**: Paul will get the barbie agreed to watch the fire to give Paul some

News: Sorry, but

All are welcome! **Bring your family** 

Driving directions are shown on Page 2!

### Volume 37 Issue 7 **July, 2018** Our 37<sup>th</sup> Year of Publication

### Inside this issue:

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  - Everyone is welcome 3 to Enter 2018 Writing Contest
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### **Arthur Conan Doyle's Edinburgh**

While the adventures of Sherlock Holmes may seem to be quintessential London stories, their inspiration came from the heart of Scotland...

By Jim Gilchrist, excerpted from Scottish Life magazine — Summer 2015

On his sandstone plinth, just off Edinburgh's busy Picardy Place roundabout, Sherlock Holmes appears to be pondering the improbable. Sculpted in bronze by Gerard Laing, he strikes a classic pose, replete in deerstalker hat and Inverness cape, clutching his trusty pipe as the ceaseless traffic rumbles past.

The many visitors to the city must wonder why the world's most famous detective, a man whose exploits inevitably seemed enshrined in London fog, should be commemorated in the Scottish capital. But for London fog, substitute North Sea "haar", the summer sea fog that can suddenly envelope Edinburgh, and you can begin to see that the sage of Baker Street was the creation of an imagination ineradicably conditioned by Scotland's capital city. **Continued on Page 3** 



**Modify your** calendars!

We've moved our July Meeting to July 22!



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 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, turn right. The library is one (1) block north on the northwest corner, at the cross with Garfield Street.

# "There is no part of the body which varies so much as the human ear."

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, 2018 at the Seattle Public Library (Queen Anne Branch) at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (driving directions at left). A scheduling conflict at the Library required us to move our meeting back one week!

Study up on "The Cardboard Box" for this meeting! It's a chronical that appeared originally in the *Strand* magazine for January 1893 and, almost simultaneously, in *Harper's Weekly* issue of January 14, 1893.

Adds our Program Chair Sunny Even: "The Cardboard Box gives us a new insight into John Watson's character—and for once not filtered through Watson's own words. In the introduction Holmes observes that Watson keeps portraits of two men of note, England's warrior-diplomat Gen Charles George Gordon, and the American social reformer Henry Ward Beecher. What can be gleaned of Watson's character that these two gentlemen warrant such consideration? Is this a chance choice of wall décor, or are they Watson's personal heroes? After you've read The Cardboard Box, have a look at their Wikipedia pages and consider how their lives and virtues must have appealed to a Victorian romantic like Dr. John H. Watson of the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers."

Note from PFL David: "SOB Cameron Brandon will bring his 'Twisted Flip' game to the July 22 meeting! So join in the fun! It's a blast to play!!"

To whet your appetite for this story, **SOB Charlie Cook** has produced this quiz on CARD:

- 1. What author did Holmes cite concerning the ability to follow another person's thoughts?
- 2. What two pictures of Watson's did Holmes notice the doctor observing?
- 3. When Watson stated he was amazed at Holmes's reasoning, the detective didn't say "Elementary" but said what...?
- 4. What did the headline say for the article Holmes asked Watson to read and from what paper did it come?
- 5. What was in the box sent to Miss Susan Croydon and from where was it sent?
- 6. Describe the box!
- 7. Name Miss Croydon's sisters; which one was married and to whom?
- 8. How much did Holmes say he paid for his Stradivarius and what was its true worth?
- 9. Holmes regaled Watson with anecdotes about what composer?
- 10. Name the steamer on which Susan's married sister's husband sailed.
- 11. In a letter to Holmes, Lestrade referred to what man who helped them in what case?
- 12. What did Holmes declare to Watson that was unthinkable?

Suddenly my companion's voice broke in upon my thoughts:
"You are right, Watson," said he.
"It does seem a most preposterous way of settling a dispute."



Answers may be found on Page 7

# Getting To ■ SEAHURST PARK ■ for the Watson Picnic Saturday, July 28, 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 west-bound, look for and turn right onto Ambaum Blvd. S.W. Proceed to S. W. 144<sup>th</sup> Street (the 2<sup>nd</sup> light) and turn left. Go 3 short blocks to 13<sup>th</sup> 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!

### ...Doyle's Edinburgh Continued from Page 1



On May 22, 1859, the long-since demolished number 11 Picardy Place was the birthplace of Sir Arthur...Doyle spent most of his life living in the south of England, and old images portray him, at the height of his fame, as a burly, avuncular figure, seated with his dogs in the garden of his mansion, the epitome of an Edwardian English country gentleman.

Yet, Doyle was not only Scots born, but of Irish descent. His father, Charles Altamont Doyle, came from

an Irish family who had moved to London. At the age of 17 he moved north to take up a post in the Office of Works in Edinburgh...Conan Doyle's mother, Mary, came from a prosperous Anglo-Irish background...

For a future writer, there was plenty of material to be absorbed from an early age, but the inspiration for Doyle's most famous character came during his days studying medicine at Edinburgh University...(where) his teacher, Dr. Joseph Bell, stressed to his students that the basis of a successful diagnosis was "the precise and intelligent recognition and appreciation of minor differences"..."The Sherlock Holmes stories are basically medical case studies," says Owen Dudley Edwards, Edinburgh University historian, author and Conan Doyle biographer. Doyle's great mentor, of course, was Joseph Bell, who could look at a man's face and hands and other things and say what that man's occupation was or whatever. And these were qualities that Sherlock Holmes had, but there's a great deal more to him than that."

We (Gilchrist and Edwards) are speaking in the Na- pushed (his analytical work) as tional Library of Scotland, and the conversation leads on to another Edinburgh University influence that found its way into the Holmes mysteries-Sir Robert Christison, a pioneer of forensic medicine. In a Study in Scarlet, before he even met Holmes, Watson is told that his future colleague's outlandish behavior includes beating corpses in the dissecting room, to verify how far bruises may be produced after death."

"That particular experiment had, indeed, been carried tales. Walk through Holyrood out, not in London but in Edinburgh," explains Edwards, Park under the rearing basalt who goes on to tell how Chistison, engaged as a medical witness at the Burke/Hare murder trial (see sidebar), had beware of marauding pterobeaten bodies and found that you could, indeed, produce bruises after death.

If Holmes comes over as something of an outsider, that also reflects aspects of Conan Doyle himself, reckons Edwards, who points out that Doyle, as well as living with the uncertainty of his unstable father, would also have been aware of being a Roman Catholic in a pre- terious realm are compared to the Crags, which Doyle dominantly Presbyterian Scotland. "Also, he belonged to would have known as a boy. ... the Irish, who were regarded by most Scots as at least

# Writing Contest

### ...Everyone is Welcome to Enter **Our 2018 Writing Contest!**

**SOB Lauran Stevens** has a new challenge for us and everyone is eligible to enter!!

**IMAGINE:** Of all the Sherlock Holmes stories written by Conan Doyle, there is bound to be at least one that you did not like the ending of, right?

Decide which story—or stories—you would have liked to have a different or better ending.

Explain what you would have had happen instead —to make it a more satisfying ending for you! And multiple entries are permitted!!

You don't have to actually rewrite the original story's ending; just explain how you would have liked the story to end. ■ Bring your entry to a meeting or snail-mail it to Lauran at: 320 West Roy St., Apt. 207, Seattle, WA 98119.

THERE WILL BE PRIZES AND YOUR DEADLINE **IS NOVEMBER 30, 2018!!** 

suspect and not really Scottish...That affected him in a very interesting way. It meant that whether he was dealing with Scotland or England, he would always be somewhat aware of the fact that he was an outsider. (After all, Holmes) is based on several Scottish doctors, who were part of a new rising class who would in some ways be looked upon with suspicion and dislike by the orthodox figures in London."

Doyle had no uncertainty, however, as to his debt to Joe Bell. (Writing to Bell in 1892, Doyle wrote:) "...I have

tried to build up a man who far as it would go—further occasionally, and I'm so glad that the result has satisfied you..."...

Edinburgh's input into Doyle's writing, However, goes well beyond his detective cliffs of Salisbury Crags...and dactyls. In his classic science fiction romance The Lost World, about a dinosaurinfested plateau, the unscaleable cliffs that guard the mys-

"Conan Doyle grew up in a city of contrasts and dualities. Post-Enlightenment Edinburgh was, on one level, a world-renowned centre of medical research and teaching where the university dissecting tables were supplied by body snatchers, or "sack-em-up men", whose hooded lanterns glimmered at night as they robbed fresh graves. Three decades before Doyle's birth, the notorious Burke and Hare had dispensed with the bother of digging up bodies by supplying instead the corpses of those they had murdered.'



### PFL David's Remarks During Lunch at our Annual Wreath Throw on May 5

In the December 1893 issue of "The Strand Magazine" read- that you know the answer to the fiveers had a chance to read another adventure of Sherlock Holmes. letter word with the following clue: This was something they looked forward to. Except for the peri- The "she" in the line "To Sherlock od from July 1892 to November 1892 each issue of that maga- Holmes she is always the woman". zine featured Sherlockian Adventures.

But "The Final Problem" was far different than all the others. Dr. Watson had to tell the public that he would relate no more adventures of the great detective. This was the sad story of Holmes' demise. But at least he went out fighting against a foe equal in intelligence and planning as himself. If he was to die so far from home—plunging over the Reichenbach Falls in Switzerland—at least he could eliminate Professor James Moriarty, the author of most of the evil in England.

The public and "The Strand Magazine" keenly felt his loss. It was said that black armbands were worn in public so average citizens could let others know of the loss they felt. So after two long stories and 24 short stories the Holmes saga was to end. The only one who was not saddened by the end of the series was the literary agent, Arthur Conan Doyle. At last the public would now sing his praises, not for this secondary fiction, but for the historical novels on which he worked so hard.

Today, we marvel at how superheroes can come back to life after their supposed "death". This is nothing new because Holmes did the same thing one hundred years before. It took "The Hound of the Baskervilles"—serialized from August 1901 to April 1902—to reintroduce him to his adoring public. But, it was not until September 1903 for the monthly adventures to startup again with the publication of "The Empty House". So over the next 25 plus years, his adoring readers got to enjoy his exploits in another 32 short stories, and counting "The Hound" two long stories.

We are here today to celebrate the return of Sherlock Holmes from his watery grave because, as Dr. Watson observed 125 years ago, he is "the best and wisest man we have ever known".

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

### **⇒** From SOB PFL David Haugen:

• "THE CASE OF THE CHRISTMAS CAROL: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYS-TERY", KINDLE EDITION by SOB John Longenbaugh (\$2.99) is an adaptation of the popular stage play. The story line of both the play and this novella is a creative mash-up between Conan Doyle and the Dickens holiday classic. The Great Detective finds himself on the trail of his strangest case yet, as he finds himself visited by a host of ghostly visitors who take him into the past, the present and the future in an attempt to solve his greatest mystery: Who is Sherlock Holmes? It's a great play, now read it as a book.

 "THE NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD **PUZZLES** get harder as the week goes along. But I have every confidence



- IF YOU MISSED BY E-MAIL BLAST: SOME MAY THINK TYING THE KNOT ON VALENTINE'S DAY IS A BIT CHEESY, but you'd be surprised to learn how many stars decided to say their vows on the most romantic day of the year. The 'Doctor Strange' star married theater director Sophie Hunter in a small ceremony on the Isle of Wight on February 14, 2015. Benedict's 'Imitation Game' co-star Kiera Knightley was on hand during the nuptials, and his "Sherlock" sidekick Martin Freeman served as best
- While looking at THE LIST OF SHERLOCKIAN TITLES AT THE BOOK DEPOSITORY, I noticed an interesting volume. The picture of it had "Sherlock Holmes" at the top front of the cover and toward the bottom said, "Scholar Select". The first part of the description reads, "This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it." While that might make this sound important, it also goes on to state that everything printed in it is no longer under copyright. The clincher is that the AUTHOR IS LISTED AS ACO-NAN DOYLE. This is interesting because other titles in the series noted later identify the author is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. It appears that The Book Depository does not edit what they list. (Though I must admit having a book by Aconan Doyle would be great.)

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

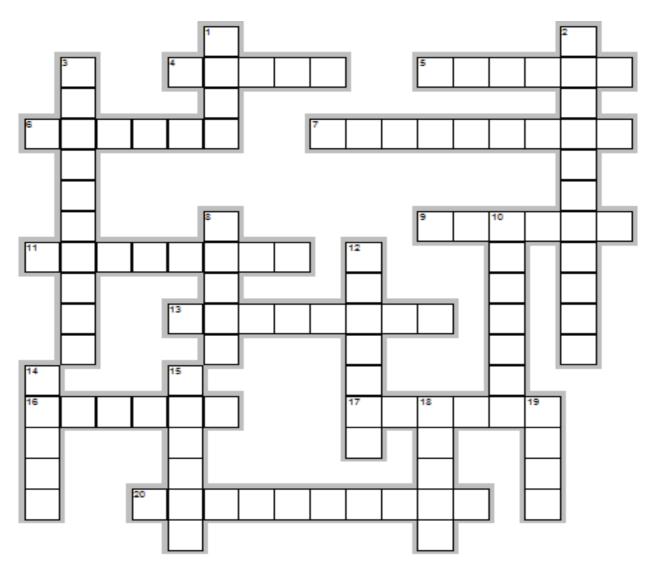
- SIMON CORBLE'S TWO-ACT PLAY "THE HOUND OF THE BAS-KERVILLES" was first performed in an outdoor venue in Britain in 1995, and THE SCRIPT IS NOW AVAILABLE IN PRINT AND E-BOOK EDITIONS (London: MX Publishing) Corble's introduction explains how the play came to be written, and why it differs from the book. It can be interesting indeed to read scripts when you have already read the story. "The Hound of The Baskervilles: A Sherlock Holmes Play" is available from all good bookstores including in the USA Amazon and Barnes and Noble; in the UK, Waterstones, Amazon and Book Depository (free worldwide delivery). In e-book format, it is available through Kindle, Nook and iPad.
- DAVID HARNOIS CONTINUES TO ADD TO HIS DRAMATIZED READINGS OF THE CANON, and he now offers 'The Blue Carbuncle' and six other stories at his 'I Am Lost Without My Boswell' website (www.iamlostwithoutmy boswell.com), where you can... Continued on Page 6



### **A Sherlockian Crossword Puzzle**

### By: SOB Charlie Cook

### Answers may be found on Page 7



### **Across**

- 4. Number of Canonical tales
- 5. Mrs. Hudson's first name
- 6. Starrett's Hamlet
- 7. A kind of box
- 9. Watson's first name could have been this
- 11. Public house where Henry Baker bought his goose (2 words)
- 13. A wine merchant
- 16. "The Empty House"
- 17. A kind of stain
- 20. Sherlock was this kind of detective

### Down

- 1. A number of orange pips
- 2. Sherlock could have been called by this name
- 3. He was Holmes' smarter brother (2 words)
- 8. Not really the last "Problem" 10. Watson's Mary
- 12. Sherlock's form of defense
- 14. A Baker Street address to a Roman
- 15. Color of a visage
- 18. This Michael didn't have a clue
- 19. Holmes enjoyed this kind of hunting

Answers may be found on Page 7





### More Things to See, Buy...

Continued from Page 4

...listen to or download the readings, which are nicely done.

- THE UNEMPLOYED PHILOSOPHERS GUILD continues to offer imaginative Sherlockiana, including AN ATTRACTIVE SHERLOCK HOLMES MUG that comes with instructions. To view the Mug, go to: philosophersguild.com. To view the instructions on YouTube, go to: www.tiny url.com/ycmrqspr. The cost is \$15.95 plus postage.
- How many actors have played the role of Sherlock Holmes? More than 3,700. That is the current (2018) count in Howard Ostrom's "A-Z List of Sherlock Holmes Performers" (www.nplh.co.uk/a-z-index.html) and, of course, the count will continue to increase with new productions, and new discoveries of old productions. Howard has compiled many other interesting data-bases that can be found at: www.nphl.co.uk/original-essays.html.
- ⇒ From SOB Judy Lyen: The ANACORTES COMMUNITY THEATRE WILL PRESENT "THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES" from July 27 to August 18. Performances are Thursday to Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday matinee is at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and go on sale June 25. Phone: (360) 293-6829. Box office hours are 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

### ⇒ From our Friends at MX Publishing:

- THE VATICAN CAMEOS by Richard Ryan, \$28.95 (Kindle, \$2.95), was selected as a Pitch Perfect Pick and nominated for the Reader's Choice award. It's described as "A Sherlock Holmes adventure that finds the great detective trying to solve a mystery created by Michelangelo, 400 years earlier." Ryan is a graduate of medieval studies and a Sherlock Holmes aficionado; the perfect man to resurrect one of literature's favorite sleuths.
- "THE REDACTED SHERLOCK HOLMES: VOLUME IV" brings you five more sizzling, scandalous Sherlock Holmes stories from the pen of Orlando Pearson. Pearson mixes the canon with elite sport, business high jinx, a musical mystery, a literary mystery, and Realpolitik and, in "The Hounding of Peer Baskerville", rolls the most famous of all detective stories on 20 years. A must for traditionalists, lovers of mystery and anyone who likes a rattling good listen.
- ⇒ From SOB Maffie Rafferty: If your musical tastes lean to the Canonical, you can go to YouTube and catch music by "The Sherlocks". (Adds PFL David: Based on my listening to their songs, I would say they are in the "Beaten's Christmas Annual" stage of their career.)
- ⇒ Thanks to SOB Ann Milam for this: Go to this website and you'll hear and see ACD discuss spiritualism in a recording made just a few months before his death: www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKKAWwzNE\_w. You can also hear a voice from a séance in 1934, purported to be his voice from beyond.

### ⇒ Here's a fun item from SOB Kate Nelson: See a video of BENEDICT

CUMBERBATCH ON SESAME STREET, as he sleuths his way through a fruit problem: https://you tu.be/-7iS7X-2ggA. (The



red Muppet on the left is normally named Murray, hence the Murray-arty joke.)

- ⇒ Thoughts from SOB Sherrill Hendrick: I wasn't able to attend the BOOK DISCUSSION ABOARD THE SEATTLE-TO-BAINBRIDGE FERRY ON JUNE 14. but wanted to share my thoughts on King's "Russell" series. ■ Laurie R. King is one of my two favorite authors for Sherlock-related pastiches. I read her entire series of Mary Russell books each time a new one is printed. Naturally, I begin a month or two prior to the release of each new one. This means I have read "The Beekeeper's Apprentice" fourteen times... or more. In addition to the story and introduction to an amazing new character in the Sherlockian universe, I love the structure, literacy, language, proven research that spills off each page, plus the drama and humor. It is impossible to agree with nay sayers who argue that there's barely a scintilla of emotion connecting Sherlock or even his pipe smoke within the pages! Bah, Humbug and cherry licorice! Everything about Mary Russell is a reflection of Sherlock's impressive training and impeccable good taste. He is so confident that he appears as often as he's interested and/or needed. Otherwise, he's a busy—though far happier—man who lives most agreeably in the open weave plan of their lives.
- ⇒ SOB Margaret Nelson offers this nugget: Reading the paper (on June 29), I noticed the beginning of this column in the New York Times. It is on Page 2 where the Times journalists take the opportunity to write something about their jobs. WHAT I'VE SENT IS THE ONLY MENTION OF DOYLE OR HOLMES... Continued on Page 7

### "Holmes in the Heartland"

...is the title of a conference planned for August 10 & 11 by The Parallel Case of St. Louis scion. If you plan to go east, you'll get St. Louis BBQ, blues, tea and history, and plenty of Sherlockian discussion!

Among the guests are <u>Tim Johnson</u>, curator of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the U of Minnesota; <u>SOB Bill Mason</u>, BSI, author of "Pursuing Sherlock Holmes" and former Head Light of The Beacon Society; <u>Tassy</u>

<u>Hayden</u>, fan fiction writer and co-host of the wildly popular "The Three Patch Podcast"; and <u>Brad Keefauver</u>, BSI, blogger at "Sherlock Peoria" and author of "The Elementary Methods of Sherlock Holmes".

For more, email: parallelcasestl@gmail.com.

ST. LOUIS



## ...Doyle's Edinburgh

**Continued from Page 3** 



...Like so many thousands of others, Doyle lost family during the First World War...However, he'd been investigating things spiritual long before then, as Ann Traherne, director of the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Centre in Edinburgh's West End, is at pains to point out. "Doyle was

investigating not spiritualism the religion, but spiritual matters, from a very early age, and from a scientific point of view."

And it was as a spiritual centre, "for the benefit of the mind, body and spirit that the Sir ACD Centre was opened in 2011, occupying an elegant Victorian Townhouse that once belonged to the Edinburgh brewer and philanthropist William McEwan. "As well as a spiritualist church, we aim to be a community resource," says Traherne, "so we have activities conducive to what we do—yoga, tai chi, meditation and spiritualist development."

When the Palmerston Trust, which operates the centre, took over the building and named it, they had no idea that it did, indeed, have a connection with Conan Doyle. McEwan was the Liberal MP for Central Edinburgh, and in 1900 when he stood down, Conan Doyle—by this time a household name—ran for the seat, also as a Lib-

eral. He was unsuccessful, however, and was moreover the target of a bigoted sectarian campaign. Traherne is amused by the irony that Doyle was condemned for his Catholicism when he was actually a confirmed spiritualist by then...

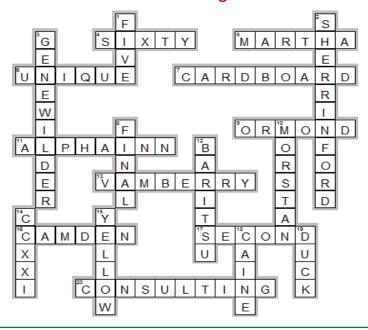
Back at the College of Surgeons' Library, I have my own personal encounter with Sir Arthur, though not quite of the psychic kind. From an archive folder, Marianne Smith, the Royal College's librarian, produces a novelty calling card, which the author seems to have dispensed in his later years. It's a flick book, the kind of thing children make, drawing cartoon figures that move when they flick the pages. This one, just six centimetres across, has a cover embossed with "Greetings A.C.D." Inside 64 monochrome photographs portray an elderly Doyle, beaming behind his moustache. I flick the pages and, across almost a century, Sir

See also, Ann Milam's essay on the "Sherlock Violin"—
referenced in this article in this issue of Scottish Life—
that appeared in the May issue of this newsletter
(Vol. 37, Issue 5).

Arthur Conan Doyle, the man whose books so enriched

my young imagination, benignly doffs his hat to me.

# Solution to "Sherlockian Crossword Puzzle" on Page 6



### Answers to "CARD" Quiz on Page 2

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		dew tobacco	
ру сһапсе		-yənod foxod bnuod flad A	.9
That our universe is ruled	15.	severed ears; Belfast	
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ininege9	.6	Superficial	.ε
seəniug		framed	
55 shillings; at least 500	.8	Henry Ward Beecher, un-	
ղցաes Browner		General Gordon, framed;	٦.
Sarah and Mary; Mary to	.Γ	Poe	τ.

### **Even More Things to See, Buy...**

Continued from Page 6

...The rest of the article is about Ms. Fox's career. But I am sending it as there is yet another new book about ACD.

### "AN OBITUARY WRITER SIGNS OFF" BY MARGARET FOX

For this obituary writer the end has come. I don't mean, thankfully, the undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns—the "end" I've written about in more than 1.400 obituaries for the New York Times. I mean the end of my career at this newspaper. My new book, "Conan Doyle for the Defense: The True Story of a Sensational British Murder, a Quest for Justice, and the World's Most Famous Detective Writer," was published this week, and in what may be the most foolhardy decision of a foolhardy life, I have decided to pursue a long held dream of writing books exclusively.





### The Sound of the **Baskervilles**

By appointment of Her Majesty, Oueen 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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### **Member News & Notes**

SOBs attending our June 10, 2018 South Sound **Meeting** in University Place, presided over by PFL David Haugen, were:

**Margaret Nelson Ginie Romnes** Al Nelson **James Romnes** Dawn Jaekel **Cara Cross** Catherine Bancroft **Sunny Even Margie Deck Cameron Brandon Geoff Jeffery** Terri Haugen

• We had a single winner for 1<sup>st</sup> place in our quiz on GREE: Geoff; but there was a 3-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> place: lent reaction to the TV show, as it discusses the ori-Margaret, Dawn J, and Sunny!!

SOBs attending our June 17, 2018 Regular Monthly Meeting in Seattle, presided over by PFL David Haugen, were:

**Cameron Brandon Chris Berwald** Terri Haugen Kashena Konecki Sunny Even **Marcia Macv** Melinda Michaelson Nancy Holder Mel Briganti Vivika Sundqvist Sheila Holtgrieve Jody Holm

- Please mark your calendars to show that we are meeting on July 22 \* We had a 3-way tie for 1st place in our quiz on GREE: Sheila, Chris and Sunny; a 2way for 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Kashena and Cameron; and a 4way for 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Nancy, Mel B, Vivika and Melinda!!
- SOB Shannon Wallace's post card said, "Salam from Egypt and Jordan! I've had the adventure trip of a lifetime, from hot air ballooning over temples to exploring underground tombs. I swam the Nile, snorkeled the Red Sea and floated the Dead Sea...hiked up thousands of ancient fairly big area in the Puna district. I am fortunate I stairs in 100° heat at Petra...rode a camel at the pyramids. Serious bucket list achievements.

• SOB John Longenbaugh wrote, "This is Olaf the dog, who I recently inherited. Though not the brightest of

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' Celebration" honoring 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.

might make him look a little more intelligent. I leave it for you to decide if it does. ■ Another item: I listened recently to an excellent podcast called "Decoder Ring" which had a special focus on the BBC's Sherlock and the JohnLock controversy. I would highly recom-

creatures, we thought it was worth seeing—in hopes a deerstalker



mend it even to Sherlockians who have an ambivagins of fandom in the Sherlock stories and how that's developed. You can listen to it (for free!) here: www.slate.com/articles/podcasts/decoder ring/ 2018/06/decoder ring explores how a conspiracy theory about a gay sherlock holmes.html

- Club Librarian Chris advises, "As shown on our masthead above under Reference Librarian I've created a new email that is ready for Members' requests to "borrow" any of our many reference materials! Please add this to your "contacts" list: SOB-Library@cberwald.com. Contents of our reference library can be viewed at the "Library" tab on our website!
- SOB Jean Macdonald shared this update from our Hawaiian SOB Paula Price: "I am fairly close (about 10 miles) to the lava flow and about 20 miles from the crater eruptions, but have not really been affected...I am in Pahoa, which is a didn't end up where the lava has been and still continues to cover the land...(N)o Sherlock Holmes groups here that I can find. All in all, doing well. Hello to all and Mahalo.

**Regular Monthly** Meeting, Sunday, July 22, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library. Seattle

This is a change from the 3rd Sunday to the 4th!! Details on Page 2

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dr. John H. Watson Picnic, Saturday, July 28, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Seahurst Park, Burien.

**Bring your Friends** & Family!!

Driving directions are on Page 2!

**Regular Monthly** Meeting, Sunday. August 19, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library, Seattle