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

## Arthur Conan Doyle, Architect?

#### Submitted by SOB Al Nelson, with further info from Roger Johnson and Brice Stratford

Arthur Conan Doyle, the architect? So it would seem! In 1912, the 19<sup>th</sup> century Glasshayes House,



located in Lyndhurst, New Forest gained another floor of the East wing, and a redesigned front entrance. These redesigns were the work of Arthur Conan Doyle. Brice Stratford writes in his article, *Arthur Conan Doyle and Glasshayes House: The 1912 Extension of the Lyndhurst Grand Hotel*, that Doyle had spent a considerable amount of time in the nearby area while doing research for his 1891 historical novel, *The White Company*. Doyle was staying at the Lyndhurst Hotel on a family trip, when he took an interest in the architectural project. Doyle's original sketches of the extension can be found in the Lancelyn Green Archive of the Conan Doyle Collection at Portsmouth Central Library. According to

Stratford, five variations of the design for the entrance can be seen, with the chosen concept drawing upon elements of all. Stratford points out that Doyle's father had been a surveyor for the Scottish Office of Works, and that Doyle had had friends who were architects, so he would have been familiar with the work involved in architectural design. He also had some involvement in the design of Undershaw, the family home he commissioned Joseph Henry Ball, one of those architect friends, to build, though not to the extent that can be seen at Glasshayes House.

## Puzzled by the Resident Patient A Quiz on "The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet" By: SOB Charlie Cook (Café Noir)

1. Watson considered "A Study in Scarlet" and "The *Gloria Scott*" as examples of what?

2. Name the doctor who visited 221B and provide his address in London!

3. What was the subject of the doctor's monograph and, what was he rewarded for it while at King's College?

4. Name the resident patient of the title!

5. What reason did the Russian nobleman give for consulting the doctor?

6. What tragic event happened in the patient's room and who was the investigating policeman?

7. What statistic did the policeman mention to



Holmes?

8. What type of cigars were found in the patient's room?

9. What deductions did Holmes make from the cigars?

10. Give the patient's real name and the names of the three men who broke into his room?

11. By what group name were they known as?

12. Name the ill-fated steamer mentioned at the end of the story and what was its significance?



### Volume 36 Issue 11

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weather coordinator" and is putting together a phone tree and email blast list for our Western Washington Members!! Please let VP Kashena know if you prefer: a) email contact, or b) phone contact! Email her at: konecki@gmail.com And, please be sure that your contact info is current on our Membership List!







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



The Summit is a joint meeting of Sherlockian Clubs-drawing attendees from throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond—on Saturday, November 4, 2017, Noon to 4 p.m. at the Skagit River Brewery (404 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St, [360] 336-2884), Mt Vernon, WA. (http://www.skagitbrew.com).

This is a social event, so plan to meet many old friends and some new folks.

The cost is only the price of what you eat and drink!

All are welcome,



## The Remarkable Adventure of the Resident Patient

Not long before the Thanksgiving holiday, the SOBS will gather on November 19 to review 'The Adventure of the Resident Patient', a story some critics have referred to as 'unremarkable'. Far-flung SOB Bill Mason, of Tennessee, might beg to differ. For a September 2011 meeting of The Nashville Scholars of the Three-Pipe Problem, he developed a very interesting, in-depth look at this story—a story that allows Arthur Conan Doyle's medical knowledge and Sherlock Holmes's investigation skills to shine. Bill has kindly shared the text of his program with us to use as a discussion guide at this meeting.

To learn more about Bill, and his 2,750 books and 825 comics all pertaining to Sherlock Holmes, go to Dan Andriacco's Baker Street Beat to read an engaging conversation with Bill from April of this year. (http://bakerstreetbeat.blogspot.com/2017/04/meet-bill-masonbsi.html)

SOB Sheila Holtgrieve will be leading the discussion, as we take a closer look at this adventure, during our November 19th monthly meeting!

Please join us at the Queen Anne Library for a discussion that should prove to be entertaining and enlightening. As always, the meeting will begin at 1:30, and non-alcoholic drinks and goodies to share are welcome.

Sir

Ar-

Co-

#### Arthur Conan Doyle, Architect?

#### **Continued from** Page 1

The September 27, 2017 issue of Country Life states that **Glasshayes House** has been empty since 2014 and remains unlisted as a historical building despite several applications. It is currently owned by a developer, PegasusLife, which wishes to demolish the structure

in order to construct

a block of flats in its place. Efforts are ongoing to secure the building's historically unique status as the only remaining building designed by



Doyle, in order to



So Much For the Police Court!

#### A Blue Carbuncle Game Hosted by Margie Deck at the Annual Will Crakes Memorial Jollification, on December 2nd, at 1:00pm!

The season may be happy, and the celebration merry, but when the SOBs gather for the annual jollification, they will be called upon to rise to the occasion and sort out, once and for all, what really happened with the blue stone found in Peterson's goose. With only partially redacted police reports to work with, our investigators must determine the proper words to tell the story. Unfortunately, the list of available words will be a bit short. Which SOB can complete the report with the highest degree of accuracy, or, failing that, with the highest degree of silliness? The game will most certainly be afoot as we determine the real fate of "...Mr. Henry Baker, the gentleman with the bad hat and all the other characteristics with which I have bored you."

**Driving Directions to Carrol's Home: From I-5** north- or southbound, exit in Federal Way at S.W. 320th Street and head west. After passing through intersections at 21st Ave. S.W. and 26th Ave. S.W., turn left on S.W. 323rd Street. Then take the first left on 33rd Avenue S.W. Clemens' home will be on your right at 32148—33rd Avenue S.W. If you need further, call Carrol at (253) 838-1790.



## Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

⇒ Exciting News from Sonia Fetherston, BSII: "Subscribers to The Baker Street Journal receive four quarterly issues of the premier Sherlockian magazine, PLUS a bonus: the paperback booklength BSJ CHRISTMAS ANNUAL covering the year's most interesting topic, in depth. This year SOB Sonia Fetherston, BSI is coauthor of the Annual, along with Julie McKuras, BSI. In the 2017 Annual Sonia and Julie reveal — for the first time ever — fascinating details of the life of 1940s Sherlockian poet Helene Yuhasova. The 24 year-old Yuhasova burst onto the Sherlockian stage in 1943 with lyrical poetry and sonnets about Sherlock Holmes. She bowled over the Baker Street Irregulars (who named her both their Poetess Laureate and THE Woman). She was lauded for her writing and for her ability to command the deep respect of the old boys. When Yuhasova was accused of being a Communist spy by Senator Joe McCarthy in 1948, she promptly vanished from Sherlockian circles, and from history! Sonia and Julie spent more than two and a half years painstakingly tracing Yuhasova's whereabouts and eventual fate. They made Freedom of Information Act requests, located (and interviewed) surviving family members, collected many never-beforeseen photos, and assembled all of the known poems so modern readers can read the "irrepressible" genius of Yuhasova for themselves. To get your copy, simply subscribe to The Baker Street Journal at www.bakerstreetjournal.com. »

⇒ From SOB Sheila Holtgrieve: Anothony Horowitz, author of *The House of Silk*, gets meta in his new novel *The Word is Murder*, which features Anthony Horowitz himself as a character, as well as a story within a story.

#### ⇒ From SOB VP Kashena Konecki:

• Upcoming film March, 2018 Sherlock Gnomes will feature voice acting by Johnny Depp, James McAvoy, and Emily Blunt. Can Sherlock Gnomes solve the case of the missing lawn ornaments?

• Famed young adult author John Green is following up his bestselling, The Fault in Our Stars, with a book featuring a character named Asa Holmes, that deals with the struggle of dealing with OCD.

• Detective Pikachu?! It's true, the famous Pokemon character will be sporting a deerstalker in this game, where he will work to solve mysteries with a boy named Tim Goodman. This game was released in 2016 in Japan, and is currently being developed into a movie property.



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

• The Sherlock Holmes Museum in Meiringen, Switzerland, has a new caretaker. The previous Dorfschreiber of Meiringen retired after 40 years in 2015, and his successor left in 2016. The new Dorf-

schreiber is Stefan Meier, who is now responsible for the Museum's operations.

• Planning on travelling to East Sussex? At the Holmes Lodge, in Seaford (identified with Fulford, from *The Lion's Mane*, by Sherlockian researcher Bernard Davies), you can stay in rooms named for Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Watson, Mrs. Hudson, Inspector Lestrade, and Professor Moriarty. They also have a Sherlock Holmes doll house on display in their conservatory. Check out the website http:// www.holmeslodge.co.uk/index.php for more information, and pictures!

• Neil McCaw, who has worked with the Conan Doyle Collection at Portsmouth since its accession, has written the script for a short film, Who IS Sherlock Holmes? It is intended to both educational and entertaining, and features engaging animation. Check it out at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I8992A5oAWM

⇒ From SOB Bill Seil: Have you ever noticed the role that food plays in good detective fiction? Some mystery series even have thematic cookbooks, such as Yashim Cooks Istanbul by Jason Goodwin! Bill Seil directs us to the article *"Why Literaure's Greatest Detectives are All Obsessed with Food,"* which can be read at <u>https://www.eater.com/2017/8/31/16216310/20thcentury-detectives-food</u>

⇒ SOB Airy Maher Interviews PFL David Haugen: Upcoming November Issue the John H. Watson Society Publication, The Watsonian (Volume V, Issue II), will feature the publication of this engaging interview!

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

• Transformative Works and Cultures, the academic journal published by the Organization for Transformative Works, have focused on Sherlockiana in Vol. 23, Issue 23, Transformative Works Cultures

which is titled "Sherlock Holmes, Fandom, Sherlockiana, and the Great Game. Check it out at www.tinyurl.com/ y9hkz4ml. It looks fascinating, and is available to download for free!

• The British Film Institute has built a new comprehensive database with details on more than 10,000 films and more than 250,000 cast and crew from over 100 years of films. Using the data-



base, we can confirm that Sherlock Holmes is the third most frequently featured character in British film, after James Bond and Queen Victoria, who tie for first place! Find out more about the database at www.bfi.org.uk/archive-collections/bfi-filmography.

• For those of you who are fans of the animated television series, "Sherlock Holmes in the 22nd Century" (I know there are a few of you!), take a look at the October 6th article by Patrick Morris on the Arcanist website, in which he reexamines this series and its prescience. www.tinyurl.com/y9rnynhb

• Exciting news for comics fans! Dark Horse is adapting Neil Gaiman's beloved short story, Continued on Page 5

## Ineffable Twaddle



## A Sherlockian Meeting of the "Practical but Limited Geologists" and the "Sound of the Baskervilles" at the Geological Society of America Seattle Convention, October 25, 2017 by SOB Margaret Nelson

Concurrent with the Geological Society of America's (GSA) convention in Seattle, BSI Peter Blau, former Chief Geologist of the State of Maryland and well respected in both groups, called a meeting of a subset of the GSA which he began, geologists who are "Friends of Sherlock Holmes", the "Practical but Limited Geologists" (PLG). All interested Sherlockians, geologists or not, were invited and we met at Seattle's Elephant and Castle's billiards room the evening of October 25, 2017. "Practical but Limited Geologists" attending included Peter Blau, James and Nicole LaMoreaux of Tuscaloosa, Bob Levich of Las Vegas, Laurance and Julie Donnelly of Manchester, Rebecca Taormina, a TX Tech student from Baylor and the SOB's geologists Allen and Margaret Nelson. They were joined by other SOBs Margie and Hank Deck, Kasheena Konecki, Michael Phillips, Sonia Featherston and Flying Petrel Bob Coghill.

Peter knew James LaMoreaux and Bob Levich from previous GSA conventions and is an old friend of Bob Coghill. Rebecca was a new attendee but Laurance Donnelly, new to the PLG, is a forensic geologist who has worked with the British police for 25 years, often using geology to show that people and items were present at a crime location. At the GSA convention, Laurance presented two papers, one on landslides and was also the featured luncheon speaker on Wednesday on forensic geology. He said he was unaware of the PLGs until Peter invited him to this meeting.

Peter Blau told a very entertaining story of the naming of Holmes Peak near Tulsa, OK after Sherlock. It involves the Pope so I think it must be the genuine, still unwritten story of the Vatican cameos with one of the cameos being Holmes' small part in the story! He also told us about a crater on the moon being named for Sherlock. Here is a quick summary about that name.

Harrison "Jack" Schmitt, a geologist who was chosen for the astronaut program went to the moon on the 1972 Apollo 17 mission. The astronauts honored peo-

#### 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

ple by naming lunar features for them. Schmitt said, These men and women are representatives of many, many others of their generations who were or are true humanists - no matter what enterprise may call upon them for excellence. Most of the crater designations reflect the bias of my own specific interests in literature, history of western man, geographical exploration and geology. Several other names were suggested by other individuals deeply involved in our mission ... " Regarding Sherlock Crater, Schmitt said, "Sherlock Holmes, whose adventures were preserved for us by Dr. Watson, was not only the world's most famous and most brilliant detective, but was also one of the leading geological thinkers of his time. His knowledge of London soils and many other aspects of nature, combined with his use of deductive reasoning, serve as examples to all who aspire to understand the worlds around us." You can read a list of named lunar craters at: https://www.hg.nasa.gov/alsj/a17/a17.site.html.

We all enjoyed meeting Sherlockians and thank Peter Blau for regularly calling meetings of the PLGs at GSA and other professional geological meetings!

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

Continued from Page 3 "A Study in Emerald," as a graphic novel! It will feature art by Eisner award winner Rafael Albuquerque, writing by Rafael Scavone, and colors by Dave Stewart, winner of multiple Eisner Awards. The book is expected to be published in June of 2018. Read the announce-

ment from Paste Magazine here: <u>www.tinyurl.com/y7bw5l2y</u>

 Randall Stock's annual "Best Sherlock Holmes Gifts" list is up for those of you who are seeking some holiday shopping ideas.
See the suggestions for must-have books and DVDs at http://www.bestofsherlock.com/ sherlock-gifts.htm.

sherlock-gifts.htm. ⇒ From Andrew Gulli and The Strand Magazine: For those seeking further holiday shopping ideas, The Strand Magazine has a shop dedicated to Sherlock Holmes prod-

ucts. A perfect place to peruse for gifts for the Sherlockian in your life (or for a gift for yourself!). Find it here: https://www.strandmag.com/product-category/sherlocks-shop/221b-baker-street-collection/

#### ⇒ To The Stormy Petrels: Happy 30th Anniversary!



## Answers to Quiz on "RESI" on Page 1

it sank

11. The Worthington Bank Gang 12. Norah Creina; it was believed that the murders were on board when

10. Sutton; Biddle, Hayward and Moffat

very sharp knite and 2 had ends were bitten off

2. 2 were smoked from a holder; 2 were not; 2 had ends cut by a not

8. 1 was Havana and 4 were imported by the Dutch from their East India

- 3. That suicides are most common at about 5 in the morning
- 6. Bessington apparently hanged himself; Inspector Lanner
  - 5. He had been for some years a victim of cataleptic attacks

4.Mr. Bessington

3. Obscure nervous lesions; the Bruce Pinkerton Prize and a medal

- 2. Doctor Percy Trevelyan of 403 Brook Street
  - Scylla and charybdis

## A Sherlockian Cocktail

#### Reported by SOB Margaret Nelson

Episode 356 392 of the Public Radio International's *Dinner Party Download* program (on Seattle's KUOW radio on Saturdays) had an Arthur Conan Doyle story on its October 21, 2017 program. They spoke about the George Edalji case and Edalji asking Doyle to help him clear his name. While Doyle knew he was no Sherlock Holmes, his wife had recently died and perhaps this helped distract him from his sorrow? Doyle investigated and concluded that George would be a very unlikely criminal in this case and was instead the victim of a racist legal system. He sent his conclusions to English newspapers; readers were fired up about George's innocence and wrongful conviction while the local police found Doyle's work annoying as it conflicted with their conclusion. Eventually Edalji was pardoned.

The Dinner Party stated that this "case eventually led England to create a Court of Appeals. So the unjustly convicted wouldn't have to ask famous novelists to set the record straight".

To celebrate this, a cocktail, Court of Appeel (punny on watermelon 'peel'), was created by Calum Robb, bartender at The Botanist in Birmingham, England, the city where Edalji worked as a solicitor. While the ingredients sound more Mexican than Victorian British, Calum justified them by saying that said that watermelon was grown in England in Victorian times. I don't know how he justified the tequila!

#### **Court of Appeel**

Ingredients:

1 ounce (or 30 ml) Silver tequila

1/4 ounce (7.5 ml) Watermelon syrup

1/4 ounce (7.5 ml) Vanilla syrup

1 and 3/4 ounce (50 ml) Watermelon juice

1/2 ounce (15 ml) Lime juice

1/2 ounce (15 ml) Peach liqueur

Watermelon wedge

Lemon zest

Instructions:

Churn together silver tequila, watermelon syrup, watermelon juice, and lime juice in a glass with crushed ice. Drizzle peach liqueur on top. Garnish with watermelon wedge and lemon zest.

Read all about it at: <u>https://</u> <u>www.dinnerpartydownload.org/sir-arthur-conan-doyle/</u> and give me a brandy instead!





The Sound of the **Baskervilles** 

By appointment of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria

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**Regular Monthly** Meeting, Sunday, November 19, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library, Seattle **Details on Page 2** 

3<sup>rd</sup> International Sherlockian Summit, Saturday, November 4, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. in Mt. Vernon, WA See details on Page 2!

Annual Will Crakes Memorial Holiday Jollification at Carol Clemens' Home in Federal Way Saturday, December 2 See details and driving directions on Page 2

-1790.

## Member News & Notes

SOBs attending our October, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting in Seattle, presided over by VP Kashena Konecki and SOB Margie Deck, were:

Sheila Holtgrieve, Terri Haugen, Chis Berwald, Kashena Konecki, Margie Deck, Alex Snow, Al Nelson, Mel Briganti, Margaret Nelson, Airy Maher, Cameron Brandon, Lauren Messenger, Judy Lyon

• Margie Deck took us through a fascinating discussion of possible identities for Baron Maupertuis., as well as the nature of his criminal involvement! Among the suspects: Count de Lesseps, due to his mishandling of a contract to construct the Panama Canal, the Fenian attacks of June, 1887, and the possible spy Schnabele. In all honesty, I found the speculation more interesting than REIG, itself!

• Get ready for the Annual Will Crakes Memorial Jollification, on December 2nd! We will meet at Carol Clemens' home at 1pm. To get there by car:

From I-5 north- or southbound, exit in Federal Way at S.W. 320th Street and head west. After passing through intersections at 21st Ave. S.W. and 26th Ave. S.W., turn left on S.W. 323rd

Street. Then take the first left on 33rd Avenue S.W. Clemens' home will be on your right at 32148—33rd Avenue S.W. If you need further, call Carrol at (253) 838

• The Stormy Petrels celebrated their 30th Anniversary in Vancouver, BC, and several of the SOBs were on hand to celebrate the momentous occasion!



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" (Julv). 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

#### **Please Note:**

Standard distribution of our monthly newsletter is **by** email! Those with NO email and those who "opt out" of receiving Ineffable Twaddle by email will continue to receive it



by snail-mail!!!

#### The SOB's **Electronic Stops**

We're on the web at:

www.soundofthebaskervilles .com

Like us on Facebook at:



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Follow us on Twitter at: twit-



ter.com/SeattleSherlock

