



INEFFABLE TWADDLE



A CASE OF TRUST BY SUNNY EVEN



As one of his earliest stories, “A Case of Identity” introduces a villain type Conan Doyle will return to over and over*... a man whose evil is directed at his own family. I “under-appreciated” this story for the longest time, and attributed that to its unappealing characters. But, on further consideration, there’s an underlying discomfort that signifies another reason. Mary Sutherland is just a milksop victim, and while complicit in the deceit, her mother remains faceless. It’s James Windibank I loathe. Stealing from his step-daughter, and manipulating her good nature and sense of duty to his own ends, is just the start. Who knows how far he will go to keep control of her modest income?

Windibank is by no means as wicked as Grimsby Roylott, Mortimer Tregennis, or Jack Stapleton, but as Holmes notes, “That fellow will rise from crime to crime until he does something very bad, and ends up on the gallows.” Klinger has an annotation attributed to D. Martin Dakin, questioning the likelihood of such a hell-fire-preacher statement from the practical Holmes. But Holmes perceives what my gut does. When someone is willing to break that one social contract most dear – the right to safety within one’s own family – then he is irredeemable.

*Eight times, that I count – can you name the stories?

Join us, as we discuss “A Case of Identity” at our October 18th meeting, at the Queen Anne Branch Seattle Public Library! What do you think of this story? How does Windibank rate among the despicable villains of the Canon? What was your impression of Mary Sutherland? Does Holmes’ detective work hold up well? Share your thoughts with us!

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.

The Sound of the Baskervilles are going to the theater! We’ll be at Centerstage Theater for a 2 PM matinee of “The Hound of the Baskervilles,” on Saturday, October 19! The Centerstage Theater is located at 3200 SW Dash Point Road, Federal Way, WA 98023. The Sound of the Baskervilles invite you to attend that day (costumes will be admired but not required), and those who wish may go out to an Italian dinner (as Holmes and Watson often did), afterwards, at Vince’s Italian Restaurant in Federal Way. Tickets to the play are \$30 for adults, \$26 for seniors and military, \$15 for 18-23 year olds, and \$12 for those 17 and under. Expect to add on an additional \$3 facility fee plus tax. Seating is festival-style so people can sit where they wish. You can order your tickets online at <http://centerstagetheatre.com/Events.aspx>. Please join us at the “Hound of the Baskervilles,” and perhaps some of the other plays this season!

2019

Upcoming Events

Left Coast Sherlockian Symposium, **October 12-13, Portland, OR.**

Visit www.leftcoastsherlock.com for details and tickets!

The Hound of the Baskervilles at Centerstage Theater: join fellow SOBs to see a performance of **"The Hound of the Baskervilles"** in **Federal Way, Saturday, October 19, at 2 PM.** Tickets can be purchased online at <http://centerstagetheatre.com/>

Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, October 20, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library, Seattle. Story to study: IDEN

Annual Sherlockian Summit, Saturday, November 2, 12:30-4:00! The Summit is being hosted by The Dogs in the Nighttime! Location: **Village Pizza, 807 Commercial Ave, Anacortes, WA 98221**

Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, November 17, 1:30 p.m. at Queen Anne Library, Seattle. Story to study: COPP

September 7th South Sound Meeting, In Review By Margaret Nelson

The September 7, 2019 South Sound- Sound of the Baskervilles meeting was hosted by Margie and Hank Deck. In attendance were: Sheila Holtgrieve, Juanita Jones, Dawn Jaekel, Al and Margaret Nelson, Tom Veal, Nancy Holder, Judy Lyen, Lee Vann, and, of course, Hank and Margie Deck.

Margie facilitated the meeting and began by passing around one of the new British 50p Sherlock Holmes coins. Though the titles of Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories impressed on the coin face were small, they were readable, and it looked wonderful.

We discussed the upcoming production of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" in Federal Way and agreed to attend the Saturday, October 19, 2 PM matinee as a group. (*Assistant Editor's note: See page 1 for details!*)

Margie passed out the finalized list of speakers for the upcoming Left Coast Sherlock weekend, and noted the SOB member-speakers like Sonia Fetherston, Nancy Holder and John Longenbaugh along with other equally well-known Sherlockians like Timothy Johnson, Curator of the University of Minnesota Library's Sherlock Holmes collection.

The Dogs in the Night Scion Society, who are hosting the November International Sherlockian Summit, would like a head count of SOBs who plan to attend before October 28. SOBs Sheila and VP Kashena are keeping a list to send to them.

After raffle drawing, which included Al's drawing of the footprints of a gigantic hound, and both the Musgrave Ritual and Baskerville legend documents, Margie presented her thoughts on the characters of HOUN including the hound, the moor, and London! One of her thoughts is that the story is character-driven, and shows the strength of Doyle's writing, in that he could make characters of the hound and London, itself! We had an enjoyable discussion going over all the characters, and came up with an idea for an SOB writing challenge, to be revealed at a later date!

A Quiz of Identity by Charlie Cook (Cafe Noir)!

1. Holmes claimed that there was nothing so unnatural as what?

2. Who is the young lady seeking Holmes' help?

3. Who is Mr. Windibank?

4. Who recommended Holmes to the client?

5. Who is it that Holmes is asked to find?

6. What was the occupation of

Holmes' client's father?
7. How much was the typist paid?

8. What did Holmes tell Watson was the first thing about a woman he noticed?

9. What did Holmes tell Watson was the first thing about a man he noticed?

10. According to Watson, what acted as a counsellor to Holmes?

11. Holmes quotes a saying from what culture justifying his refusal to inform the client what he learned?

12. What two dangers does Homes take into consideration for not informing his client what he learned?

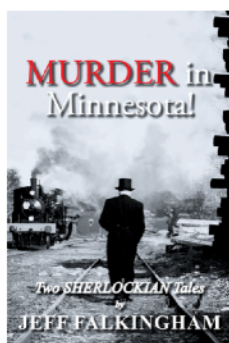


Puzzled? See page 5 for the answers!

THINGS TO SEE, DO, BUY, AND KNOW

- From BSI Sonia Fetherston: "Sad news from London: June Lancelyn Green passed away on August 12 at the age of 93. June was the mother of Richard Lancelyn Green, who is credited with being the greatest Doylean of his generation and a noted authority on Sherlock Holmes (Richard pre-deceased her back in 2004). She joined the Sherlock Holmes Society of London in 1969, and was an enthusiastic traveler on three of the society's excursions to the Reichenbach Falls. In 2008, June was honored by the queen with a "Member of the British Empire" (MBE) award for her many services to her country. The family's home, Poulton Hall, is located near Liverpool, and it was there that June and her husband, Roger, fondly tolerated their son taking over the attics with his burgeoning Doyle collections. Most of the things he collected over the years are now housed in Portsmouth, which has become a Mecca for Conan Doyle scholars. The SHSL's newsletter, "The District Messenger," notes that June was "wise, witty and charming," an unforgettable friend to the many Sherlockians and Doyleans who got to know her over the years.

- Editor Terri Haugen sent a link to a review by 'I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere' of Jeff Falkingham's book "MURDER in Minnesota!" Check out the thoughtful 5-star review this week on the website, here: https://www.ihearofsherlock.com/2019/07/murder-in-minnesota-book-review.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_campaign=0&utm_content=45933#.XT9puuhKilt. Perhaps a perfect gift for a Sherlockian reader in your life? Or a great addition to your own to-read list!



uttm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_campaign=0&utm_content=45933#.XT9puuhKilt. Perhaps a perfect gift for a Sherlockian reader in your life? Or a great addition to your own to-read list!

• From John Longenbaugh: Harlequin Productions in Olympia, WA will be putting on performances of John's play, "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol," November 27 through December 31! If you have not previously had a chance to see this play performed, it comes highly recommended! John adds, about this production: "I've just heard that Terry

Edward Moore, who was such a magnificent Sherlock in the Taproot production of my play, will be performing the role again this year in the Harlequin production! I'll also mention that Harlequin's new artistic director, Aaron Lamb, was in BOTH of the Taproot productions (of the play), playing several different characters including young Holmes and

Moriarty. So I'm really excited to see what he does with it!" Check it out, here: <https://harlequinproductions.org/show/sherlock-holmes-and-the-case-of-the-christmas-carol/>

- Some more exciting news from John Longenbaugh: "We're just finishing auditions for *The Christmas Case: A Lady Brass Mystery*, which is my NEW holiday



play which will be premiering here in Portland, right after Thanksgiving. For those who like a good detective story with a Sherlock-level detective, I think it'll be a lot of fun."

- From BSI Sonia Fetherston: "The newest volume of Sherlockian commentary is a bestseller with a very local twist! Belanger Books presents SHERLOCK HOLMES IS EVERYWHERE!, now available via Amazon.com for \$19.99 (paperback edition). The early reviews are terrific (including by Sherlockian luminaries Scott Monty and Leslie Klinger), and why not? Among the book's 40 essays, are offerings by our very own PFL David Haugen, plus fellow SOBs Margie Deck, Nancy Holder, and Sonia Fetherston. So pleased to have such great representation by our own

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 monthly newsletter, *Ineffable Twaddle*, you're encouraged to limit such writings to 350 words. Submissions are taken throughout the year.
- To appear in our *Beaten's Christmas Annual** (more than 350 words), there's much wider latitude. Submissions are taken in the 4th quarter of the year, with a December 31 deadline.

For contributions to our *2020 Beaten's Christmas Annual**, font type or size, margin size or formatting, and the number of words are not as important as submitting your text in a Word file; your images, in a .jpg file.

Please send any queries and submissions to Editor Terri at: terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com

Surely you've got something you have to say about Holmes, Watson, Doyle, the Canon, or Victorian-era England!!

** Our Beaten's is an annual magazine-style publication for the Members by the Members!*

members! Within hours of its appearance on Amazon, the book was named the site's "#1 Release in Literary and Mystery Criticism."

- The Left Coast Sherlockian Symposium is happening on October 12 and 13, in Portland, OR! Guests include author Lindsay Faye, BSI Sonia Fetherston, ASH and BSI Julia McKuras, author Nancy Holder, playwright John Longenbaugh, actor Kris Hambrick, curator Tim Johnson, writer and editor Brad Keefauver, collector Chuck Kovacic, Dr. Bruce R. Parker, writer and librarian Robert Perret, and fanfic



authors and moderators Haley (colebaltblue) and Elizabeth (Sanguinity)! As well as fantastic panels, presentations, and discussion, the weekend will also include a Sherlockian Ball, featuring a seance, tarot card reading, and historical conjuring! It's going to be an amazing weekend. You can get tickets to attend, and find more details, including the programming schedule, at: <https://www.leftcoastsherlock.com/>

- Dave Fulton sent along an interesting article about a joint effort by UCLA's Film and Television Archive and the Baker Street Irregulars to find and restore missing Sherlock Holmes films! (As a Doctor Who fan, finding missing, and presumed wiped, television is near and dear to this Assistant Editor's heart, so this article was very much of interest!) Robert Downey Jr., who is acting as honorary chair of the project has brought exciting momentum and attention to the effort. Christopher Horak, director of the UCLA's Film & Television Archive, estimates that more than 80% of American films from the silent era alone have been lost because of eroded prints, mislabeling, fires and other causes. But efforts to find lost films have succeeded before. For example, the missing 1916 Holmes film, starring William Gillette, which was rediscovered in 2014, having been mislabeled. Read more in the article here: <https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/movies/story/2019-09-04/sherlock-holmes-ucla-robert-downey-jr>.
- From Assistant Editor Lauren Messenger: A filmmaker named Mike Roberts is trying to Kickstart an adaptation of Stephen Kings's Sherlockian short story, "The Doctor's Case." Read more here: <https://portcitydaily.com/in-our-hometown/2019/09/12/local-filmmaker-gears-up-to-film-stephen-kings-sherlock-holmes-story-spring-2020/>
- From Jean Upton: "Gillette Castle – A History" by Erik Ofgang: I stumbled upon this book entirely by accident. It has apparently had so little publicity that you won't even find a review on Amazon. The author is a senior writer for Connecticut Magazine and has

done a considerable amount of research on his local landmark. Very sensibly, this included consultation with local Sherlockians Tyke and Teddie Niver, who regularly impersonate Mr. and Mrs. Gillette for events held at the Castle. The book covers Gillette's career and how his success made it possible to purchase the 184-acre estate where he built his own version of a medieval-style castle. There are plenty of photographs, plus an epilogue that describes the discovery and restoration of Gillette's long-lost film."

- Also from Jean Upton and the London Society's District Messenger: "The Chicago Silver Blaze is the oldest still active Sherlockian horse race in the world. This year's race, to be held on 12th October, marks the event's 60th annual running and will honour the memory of Susan Z Diamond, who organised the event for more than 25 years. If you would like to attend and require more information, contact Philip Cunningham by email at pjc121@comcast.net"
- From Peter Blau's Scuttlebutt: "Leonard Nimoy first played Sherlock Holmes in 'The Interior Motive' (a 15-minute program produced by Kentucky Educational Television in 1975); it's now available at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_rKfRpQZEE>." Who wouldn't want to watch that? And, speaking of things to watch, Blau also points us to a YouTube compilation of all eleven of the Sherlock Hemlock segments on Sesame Street! <www.tinyurl.com/y2s45z48>.



- Also from Peter Blau, a remembrance of writer and script editor Terrance Dicks, who died on Aug. 29. I (your Assistant Editor) knew him for his work on Doctor Who, and had little knowledge of his Sherlockian work! Blau writes: Dicks also wrote "children's books that included ten titles in his Baker Street Irregulars series (1978-1987). He novelized Doctor Who and the Talons

of Weng-Chiang (the program and book were full of Canonical allusions), had a cameo appearance by Conan Doyle in Doctor Who: Revenge of the Judoon (2008), and was script editor for the Tom Baker television version of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (1982).

“SOME CASES OF MR. SHERLOCK HOLMES, OCCURRING IN THE YEAR 1894,” BY JOHN H. WATSON & HUGH ASHTON

A REVIEW BY CHARLIE COOK

Mr. Ashton prologues this dandy collection with Watson's comments in "The Adventure of the Golden Pince-nez," concerning the cases he never included in the Canon. The author has kindly absolved Watson of his sins of omission. Here are a few tidbits from them.

"The Adventure of the Red Leech": A prominent knighted banker has been slowly and mysteriously bleeding to death. Lestrade has been assigned to find out why and how. Baffled, as usual, he turns to Holmes who, with the help of Watson, is not.

"The Adventure of the Addleton Tragedy": To Watson's delight a lovely young lass bursts into 221B and begs Holmes to help her. She and her father are in the business of exposing bogus Spiritualists, only now one appears to seem legit! Strange pounding noises keep recurring in the room where the medium stayed during her visit. The family is frightened and even being skeptics, they can't explain the mystery. But Holmes, also a skeptic probably can. Yeah!

"The Adventure of the Ancient British Barrow": As London crime has become mundane and since nobody is seeking his help, Holmes has been studying archeology. He and Watson join a group of competing academics at a dig where they unearth more than relics: crimes both ancient and modern.

"The Adventure of the Smith-Mortimer Succession": When General S-M, a man whom Watson met in Afghanistan, died, he appeared to have no heirs to his considerable fortune. However, both an American and a Scotsman arrive claiming to be distant relatives. The General's lawyer seeks Holmes' assistant in finding out which, if either, inherits. What Holmes discovers stuns, not only the lawyer but Watson as well.

"The Adventure of the Boulevard Assassin": The Sûreté has informed both Holmes and Scotland Yard that the assassin, Huret, is coming to London intending to knock off a visiting foreign diplomat. Since his victims always meet their end by "accidents", the dastardly knave has eluded French police for years. He even has the audacity to send a letter to Holmes mocking the famous detective. Big mistake!

"The Adventure of the Two Coptic Patriarchs": In RETI, Holmes reminds Watson that he has been preoccupied with this case (in 1898). But since the case was also mentioned in GOLD, Klinger informs us in his *New Annotated Sherlock Holmes* that Watson undoubtedly got his dates mixed up. Mr. Ashton agrees and includes that adventure in this collection. An extremely valuable, but damaged cross from the Coptic Church of Egypt has been sent by the French embassy to a well-known expert for repairs. The item is gold and encrusted with many precious stones, and two separate Patriarchs have come to claim it. Holmes' help is sought. But to make matters worse, the cross has disappeared. Now Holmes has two problems to solve. Not to worry!

This is a first rate, delightful collection by a masterful storyteller which most Sherlockians are sure to enjoy.

SOB Vice President Kashena Konecki is now our "inclement 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!



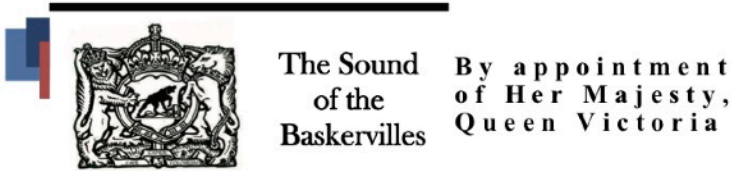
Over the coming months, **SOB VP Kashena Konecki** will serve as **acting President** and **SOB Lauren Messenger** as **acting Editor** throughout the months of **August through December**. ♦

Editor Lauren will be most pleased to receive your contributions to this monthly newsletter throughout that time at: **laurenmessenger.museums@gmail.com**. ♦ Because the deadline for receiving contributions to the 2020 issue of *Beaten's Christmas Annual* is December 31, those will be accepted by either Editor Lauren at **laurenmessenger.museums@gmail.com** or by Editor Terri at **terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com**. ♦ Details of how to submit contributions to *Beaten's* will be explained in an upcoming issue of *Ineffable Twaddle* later this autumn.



Answer
s to
Charlie
Cook's
IDEN
Quiz!

1. The sheet
2. Mary
3. The client's
4. Mrs. Sutherland
5. Homer
6. Plumber
7. Two pence a
8. Her sleeve
9. The knee of his trousers
10. An old and step-father
11. Persian
12. Taking a tiger's cub and snatching a delusion from a woman



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' 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.

MEMBER NEWS AND UPDATES



SOB Allen Nelson recently had an exhibit of his other passion, watercolor and pen & ink art, on display at the Marine Science and Technology Center, Des Moines, WA! If you've been able to attend a Sound of the Baskervilles monthly meeting, you've probably seen some of Al's fantastic art featuring the Gloria Scott, Silver Blaze, and other canonical notables!

For the 7th consecutive year, the SOBs fielded a team for the John H Watson Society annual treasure hunt! Earning 'Honors' for their canonical knowledge, were local team members

Cameron Brandon, Sunny Evan, Nancy Holder, and Sheila Holtgrieve pictured with team 'Boswell', Margie Deck. Not pictured is SOB Ron Lies who participated long-distance from Denver.

Congratulations!

