



# INEFFABLE TWADDLE



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

—*The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*

Volume 40, Issue 11 • November 2021

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



**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 8) for back issues.

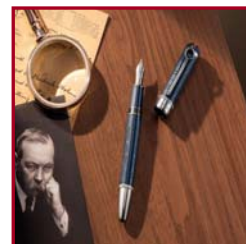
To appear in our 2022 issue of *Beaten's Christmas Annual*—our 39th year of publication—the deadline is Friday, December 31, 2021.

Please send queries and submissions to Editor Terri Haugen at:  
[terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com)

## Christmas Shoppers!!!

**Asks SOB Al Nelson:  
Want a great Christmas Present?**

❶ **Montblanc**, the luxury German pen, watch and leather goods company **has something special for Sherlockians and Doyleans**. They have a line of special pens honoring great writers and their latest offering, just in time for Christmas, honors Arthur Conan Doyle. They offer several pens: a fountain pen for \$1,145, ballpoint for \$895; several sets of multiple pens and even a limited edition that they call the "Arthur Conan Doyle 1902 rollerball" for only \$4,300. A red leather journal can be had for \$90. The only one I am likely to spring for would be the special fountain pen ink, "Scarlet Red" in homage to ACD. Several of the items were already sold out on the Montblanc website but may be available from fine pen sources on Amazon. [https://www.montblanc.com/Search/Index?textSearch=Arthur+Conan+Doyle&siteCode=MONTBLANC\\_US&lanId=19](https://www.montblanc.com/Search/Index?textSearch=Arthur+Conan+Doyle&siteCode=MONTBLANC_US&lanId=19)



**Ideas from Peter Blau's Newsletter**

❷ **Peter Melonas is a creative designer and illustrator** who has been creating Sherlockian (and non-Sherlockian) artwork in black-and-white and color for decades; you can see and purchase his work at: [https://www.etsy.com/shop/fancifullart?ref=shop\\_sugg](https://www.etsy.com/shop/fancifullart?ref=shop_sugg).



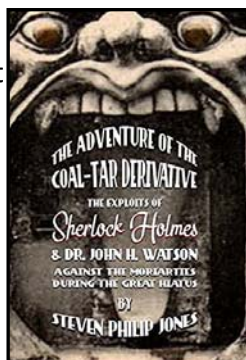
❸ **Peterson of Dublin**, which boasts that it is the oldest continuously-operating briar pipe factory in the world, has an extensive range of Sherlock Holmes pipes. The company will celebrate Christmas this year by offering all 14 best-selling shapes in three different finishes, with copper mounts. See and buy... Continued on Page 7



☺ **PFL David notes this new book with the really, really long title:** *The Adventure of the Coal-Tar Derivative: The Exploits of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John H. Watson*

*against the Moriarities during the Great Hiatus*

by **Steven Philip Jones** (MX Publishing, PB, \$14.<sup>95</sup>, September 2021): Holmes and Watson's exploits during the Great Hiatus are revealed in a series of short stories and novellas. These adventures include how they separately helped stop the Moriarities from starting a world war and using a legendary stone to destroy London. Also revealed are the facts behind the Giant Rat of Sumatra and Holmes' encounter with Jack the Ripper. (Audible Audiobook, \$7.95 at Amazon)



—Ed note: More on Page 4

## ★ Zoom Meeting ★ Sunday, November 21, 2021

12:00 (Noon) to 12:30 p.m. Pacific time

**Social Time!!**

12:30 p.m. Pacific time—Structured meeting  
with discussion & quizzing on **“DEVI”**

### Program Chair Sunny on “The Cornish Horror”

I just love this story—it’s probably my favorite. While I enjoy the Victorian atmosphere of London and 221B Baker Street, there is something uniquely beautiful and dire in the setting for **“The Adventure of the Devil’s Foot.”**

Few Holmes stories so effectively connect the timeless qualities of a place with the horror of the present-day mystery as does this one, and it revives the Holmes formula like a fresh sea breeze through a pipe smoke-filled room. In choosing Cornwall, Conan Doyle made a conscious decision to frame this story of treachery and vengeance in the long arc of history. Strewed with standing stones, quoits and ancient burial sites, the land *“had a sinister atmosphere of forgotten nations,...and traces of a vanished race which had passed utterly away, and had left as its sole record strange monuments of stone, irregular mounds which contained the burned ashes of the dead, and curious earthworks which hinted at prehistoric strife.”* I found Watson’s description of the Lizard Peninsula’s windswept headland and cliffs a most atmospheric backdrop for the violent events that unfold. Even the place name Lizard derives from the Old Cornish “Lis-ardh” meaning “fortress.” ♦ On a walk along the cliffs of Poldhu Bay, Holmes and Watson scan the ground for flint arrowheads while pondering the facts of the case. As it turns out, this was a likely pastime, since according to [archiuk.com](http://archiuk.com), there are now over 700 recorded archaeological sites near Poldhu alone, some dating back to Mesolithic times. The very paths they trod are carved through millennia of conflict and renewal. This wider perspective frames the dastardly crimes at Tredannick Wartha in a timeless way, both sharpened by its proximity and softened through the veil of antiquity.



### A “Change of Scene” Quiz on “DEVI”

**By: SOB Charlie Cook**

1. What did Holmes say was the strangest case he ever handled?

2. Where was the place that Watson called “the death trap of sailing vessels?”
3. How long did Watson wait to publish the details of this inconceivable affair?
4. Name the vicar at Tredannick Wollas!
5. Who was the vicar’s lodger?
6. Name the siblings of the vicar’s lodger!
7. How were the siblings found?
8. Who was Mrs. Potter?
9. Who was Dr. Leon Sterndale?
10. What did Dr. Sterndale say when Holmes admitted to following him?
11. What was Holmes’ response?
12. What is the scientific name of the devil’s foot and what exactly is it?

Answers may be found on Page 7



### SOB Kris Hambrick’s Sherlock on Screen:

#### The Adventure of the Devil’s Foot

When I was nine years old, the Granada series was in its first airing and I caught a commercial on our local PBS station for “The Devil’s Foot.” For some reason, I was fascinated, and I begged to be allowed to stay up and watch it. It was probably the least appropriate episode with which to introduce a child to Sherlock Holmes, but I survived and what’s more, I was hooked. It might have happened anyway, but in this reality, I am here today because I saw “The Devil’s Foot” with Jeremy Brett! ♦ Looking back, this episode—especially compared to the straightforward and capable telling in the 1966 BBC series starring Douglas Wilmer—is one of those documents that says more about outside influences than the source material. The evidence of personal issues and the inability of the producers to adequately respond shine brighter to me now than anything regarding Sherlock Holmes. ♦ While the quality of the series did decline, due to production constraints and personnel changes, the issues with the later Granada entries are not always issues of interpretation or translation. In this episode in particular, many choices were passed off as being “character choices” that really weren’t about Holmes at all. What we know *now* is that Mr. Brett was going through a difficult (and un-medicated) emotional time, and certain behaviors that were excused as eccentricities have been later revealed to be symptomatic of his bipolar disorder. I by no means wish to fault him or the series because of...

Continued on Page 7





... Continued from Page 1

© **Obscure Sherlockian connection from CA SOB Ann Deusenberry:** “I was reading *Hooked* by Michael Moss, a book about processed

foods and food addiction. He mentioned a 2006 European project on diet, obesity and genes. The name of the project?

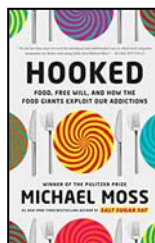
**DiOGenes! Study source:** <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00390637>

© **SOB Alexander Snow mentioned this at the October 17 Zoom Meeting:** “The Radio Ghost” is a channel on YouTube and they show 147 old Rathbone & Bruce radio shows!! Go to: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6vdSr\\_EylcrooHzisuvh-Q/playlists](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6vdSr_EylcrooHzisuvh-Q/playlists) then look for “The New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - Complete Series.” The channel does appear to require subscription, however!

© **Peter Blau points us to this news from the Royal Mint:** “Coins in Great Works of Literature” is the headline on a recent post at the blog of the Royal Mint and, yes, of course, the Canon is one of those great works. You’re welcome to try to guess which story they chose...before you read about it at: <https://www.royalmint.com/stories/celebrate/coins-in-great-works-of-literature/>

© **London Society’s Editor Jean Upton sounds thrilled to tell us this:** David Marcum has dedicated years of his own personal time to the compilation and editing of other authors’ work in the MX anthologies of new Sherlock Holmes stories. He’s finally taking time to look after himself! He has started assembling a new compilation of “my” Holmes stories. Kickstarter for this collection, *The Complete Papers of Sherlock Holmes, Volumes I thru V*, is now live...the books contains 77 of “my” stories, both previously published and a few new ones. Go to: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1427347530/the-collected-papers-of-sherlock-holmes> to support this project! **All five volumes are due on Amazon on November 15, \$24.95 pb; \$44.95 HC)**

Continued on Page 4



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

⇒ **From SOB Bill Seil:** **LEFT COAST CRIME 2022: SOUTHWEST SLEUTHS**—Registration continues for LCC 2022 in Albuquerque, NM, April 7-10, 2022. The registration fee of \$215 includes a Welcome Reception, two special Breakfasts, the Awards Banquet, and admission to all panels and interviews and extends through December 31, 2021. Hyatt Regency Albuquerque is the convention hotel and convention rate is \$134 for the convention nights, plus three nights before and after the convention (subject to availability). For more, go to: <https://leftcoastcrime.org/2022/index.html>

⇒ **From Peter Blau’s Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press:**

### ● FANS OF AMERICAN SINGER AND SONGWRITER BILLIE



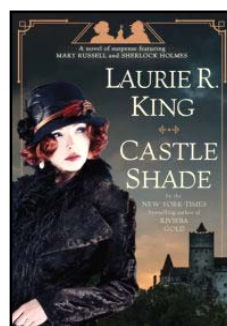
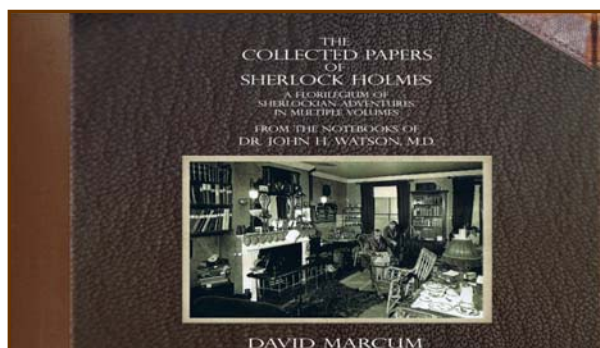
EILISH will know about her song “You Should See Me in a Crown”, which you can view at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ah0Ys50CqO8>. And, Sherlockian Howard Ostrom has reported an interesting video in which Ms. Eilish explains how and why she wrote the song [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y\\_gPCVSJRso](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_gPCVSJRso). **And, yes, it’s Sherlockian!**

● **“SHERLOCK HOLMES IN 221 OBJECTS”** is the title of an exhibition from the Collection of Glen S. Miranker, BSI scheduled at the Grolier Club in New York, running from January 12 to April 16, 2022, and to say that there will be some real treasures on display is an understatement. You can read about—and see—some of them at: [www.sherlockin221objects.org/catalogue](http://www.sherlockin221objects.org/catalogue). Neat stuff, and “Purchase info (is) Coming Soon”!

● **“SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE GREAT ESCAPE”** (aka “The Great Detective Sherlock Holmes: The Greatest Jail-Breaker”) is an entertaining Chinese animated film that was released in Hong Kong in 2019 and debuted on HBO on October 1.



● **FANS OF LAURIE R. KING’S NOVELS** about Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes are welcome to download (free) “The World of Castle Shade,” a 24-page anthology of fan fiction and fan art inspired by her latest novel and selected from submissions to a recent contest at: <https://laurierking.com/books/castle-shade/the-fan-world-of-castle-shade/>





... Continued from Page 3

☺ **SOB Bill Seil passed this along, which PFL David e-blasted on October 22: Do you like Benedict Cumberbatch's acting? Do you like cats? Then this is the**

**movie for you: "The Electrical Life of Louis Wain."** Wain is the man who famously painted cats during the Victorian era. The movie is in select theatres now and will be on Amazon Prime Video on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Here's the link to the article Bill provided: <https://www.seattletimes.com/entertainment/movies/the-electrical-life-of-louis-wain-review-actors-hum-an-and-feline-add-spark-to-wistful-biopic/> See also our reporting on this film in the January 2020 issue of Twaddle (Vol 39, issue 1, pp. 4 & 5)—with info on Cumberbatch's costar Claire Foy, the plot of the film and details of Wain's life!



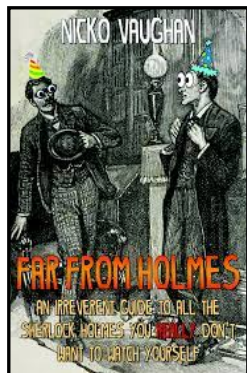
☺ **London Society's District Messenger Editor Jean Upton sends good news from Steve Emez of MX Publishing:** "We have now raised over \$85,000 for Stepping Stones School, enabling them to support many Conan Doyle related projects at the school. In addition, this summer Stepping Stones School was renamed 'Undershaw' in honour of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's legacy."

☺ **Another item from Peter Blau for our audio fans:**

**Big Finish continues to issue excellent Sherlockian audio**, the latest of them being "Sherlock Holmes: The Seamstress of Peckham Rye," dramatized by Jonathan Barnes, with Nicholas Briggs as Holmes and Richard Earl as Watson, on three CDs, with interviews with cast and crew (180 minutes, \$34.99); also available as a download (\$19.99), and you can listen to a sample from the story at their website: [www.bigfinish.com](http://www.bigfinish.com)



☺ **One more recommended by Peter Blau about "films you don't want to watch yourself" ...??? "Far from Holmes" by Nicko Vaughan** (Canterbury: Telos, 2021; \$17.84) promises that it's **"an irreverent guide to all the Sherlock Holmes films you really don't want to watch yourself."** And it certainly lives up to her promise; she explains that she made it her goal to watch every on-screen adaptation of Sherlock Holmes that she could get her hands on, films and television, and wound up dealing with more than 350 titles, from which she selected 15 to discuss in detail. One of the best things about her book is that she actually likes bad films, and she writes about them with verve and humor.



## Long Walks and Solitary Meditations

**By: SOB Webmaster Shannon Wallace**

As a librarian, part of my job is to help readers find new books they will enjoy. This process of readers' advisory involves asking questions and listening closely to how people describe elements of their favorite stories. Maybe it was fast-paced, or the characters felt like friends. Maybe it was easy to get wrapped up in the world building, or to savor the poetic language. ♦ A common tool for deciphering those appeal factors is to use Seattle librarian Nancy Pearl's four "Doorways" of Story, Character, Setting and Language. Finding books featuring similar doorways could replicate a reader's previous pleasurable experience.



Original drawing from "The Adventure of the Devil's Foot" in *The Strand* by Gilbert Holiday

The Sherlock Holmes Canon certainly appeals to readers looking for any of the four doorways.

But for me, one of the most enjoyable elements of any story is when the setting becomes a character unto itself. What would Holmes and Watson's adventures be without the atmospheric fog and hansom cabs of Victorian London?

Do you feel at home in 221B with its roaring fire and bullet shot wallpaper? It turns out my very favorite stories are those that encourage me to go on my own adventure to seek the real locations that inspired the authors.

### So why not tell you of the Cornish Horror?

In 2015 I heard of several friends doing the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage walk through Spain. I took to the idea of a long walking trip but disliked the religious affiliation and balked at carrying all my belongings. What would an equivalent pilgrimage look like for an anglophile, pop culture junkie, and Sherlockian? After some research and planning, in May 2016 I set off on a walking trip of the Cornish coast in search of some sea air and familiar landmarks from my favorite short story, **"The Adventure of the Devil's Foot."**

My walking trip began in Penzance, the largest city in Cornwall. I left my suitcase with a baggage transfer service and packed only what I needed for the day in a small pack. I walked East and explored St. Michael's Mount, an island mountain with a walkable land bridge during low tide, named for its twin Mont St. Michel on the other side of the English Channel. The further I got from town, I continued through some of the most gorgeous countryside. I met a local man ...

Continued on Page 6



## The Greatest Kind of Flattery

By: SOB Margaret Nelson

Agatha Christie wrote short stories about her fictional Belgian detective, Hercule Poirot, whose exploits were recorded by his English friend Captain Hastings, much like Watson wrote about Sherlock's cases. I began reading *"Hercule Poirot, the Complete Short Stories"* a few weeks ago. The first entries were published in 1923 and they are delightful snapshots of mostly middle and upper-class life of the time. What made them so enjoyable? Consider the following.

In "The Affair of the Victory Ball," we find that Hastings was wounded in World War I and invalided out of the army, moved to London where he shares lodgings with Poirot; they have a landlady.

"The Adventure of the Western Star" begins with Hastings standing at the window and observing a fashionably dressed young lady walking slowly down their street, looking at each house address. Before she arrives at their door, Poirot identifies her occupation from her appearance and predicts that since there are no fashionable stores or doctors' practices in the neighborhood, she is looking for their lodgings to consult them.

In "The Kidnapped Prime Minister" Hastings tells us that now that enough time has passed, he can reveal both Poirot's part in some moments of national crisis and the debt that England owes him for his actions. While at Charing Cross Station, Hastings recognizes "A little ferret-faced fellow... He was an old acquaintance of Poirot's Detective Inspector Japp, supposed to be one of the smartest of Scotland Yard's officers."

While still investigating the kidnapping of the Prime Minister, Poirot spends some reflection time in a quiet room and says, "It is not so that the good detective should act, eh? I perceive your thought. He must be full of energy... He should prostrate himself on the dusty road and seek the marks of tyres through a little glass. He must gather up the cigarette and the fallen match?"

In "the Mystery of Hunters Lodge," Poirot is bedridden with flu but sent Hastings in his place to investigate, instructing him, "You should know my methods by now. All I ask is that you should report to me fully everyday and follow implicitly any instructions I may wire you."

For my part, the quotes above reminded me of Sherlock Holmes stories including the parts of "A Study in Scarlet" about Watson's war wound and move to London. In that same story, Watson looks out the window of the Baker Street lodgings and sees an individual "Walking slowly



## New Members Joining in October!

Please welcome  
**BRIAN BURKE**

from Olympia, WA. He's the cousin of SOB Naching Kassa's husband, so she recruited Brian at a recent family wedding!

Please also welcome **EDITH POUNDEN** who sought us way out here on the west coast...all the way from Montreal, QC, Canada!

**Thanks to quick thinking by VP Kashena, we happily got to meet both our newest Members at our October 17 Zoom Meeting!!**

**A hearty welcome to you both!  
You are now officially...SOBs!!!**

slowly down the other side of the street looking anxiously at the numbers" for 221 B, while Sherlock correctly predicts his occupation. From the same story, "(Detective Tobias) 'Gregson is the smartest of the Scotland Yarders,' my friend remarked. 'He and Lestrade are the best of a bad lot.'"

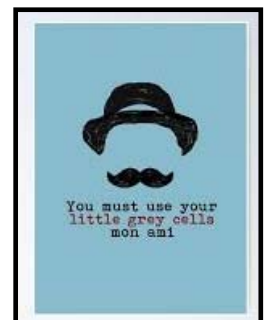
One implication of Sherlock's service to the nation was in "The Adventure of the Three Garridebs." "It was in the same month that Holmes refused a knighthood for service which may someday be described."

Another national crisis is in "The Adventure of the Second Stain" whose story "Should be published when the times were ripe, and pointing out to him that it is only appropriate that this long series of episodes should culminate in the most important international case which he has ever been called on to handle, that I at last succeeded in obtaining his consent that a carefully guarded account of the incident should at last be laid before the public."

Holmes sends Watson to Dartmoor with Sir Henry Baskerville with instructions to report back to him in "The Hound of the Baskervilles," and in "The Adventure of the Priory School," Sherlock looks for evidence of where a bicycle may have gone. "Our search was not a very long one. The tracks of the tyre began to curve fantastically upon the wet and shiny path."

Reflecting on these examples from the stories, I think the Hercule Poirot stories are delightful because though they are set a bit later than Sherlock Holmes'...

Continued on Page 7



## Long Walks and...

Continued from Page 4

...who told me May was the best time of year to walk the coastpath, as it was not yet tourist season, the spring mud had dried, and the wildflowers were in bloom. I had sunny skies and the path was very obvious.



Between Mullion and Lizard I encountered several landmarks from "The Devil's Foot."

"Thus it was that in the early spring of

that year we found ourselves together in a small cottage near Poldhu Bay, at the further extremity of the Cornish peninsula. From the windows of our little whitewashed house, which stood high upon a grassy headland, we looked down upon the whole sinister semicircle of Mounts Bay, that old death trap of sailing vessels, with its fringe of black cliffs and surge-swept reefs on which innumerable seamen have met their end."



Above: Views of the South West Coast Path, May 2016



This lone house above Poldhu Cove is the closest in description to the cottage Watson relates.

In 2016, it was a vacation home named Craig-a-Bella-Sherlock. It appears to be off the market now, although you can rent the neighboring Trewoon cottages ([https://www.cornishcottages.co.uk/Holiday\\_Complexes\\_Cornwall/Lizard\\_Peninsula/Poldhu\\_Cove/Trewoon](https://www.cornishcottages.co.uk/Holiday_Complexes_Cornwall/Lizard_Peninsula/Poldhu_Cove/Trewoon)).

"I have said that scattered towers marked the villages which dotted this part of Cornwall. The nearest of these

was the hamlet of Tredannick Wollas, where the cottages of a couple of hundred inhabitants clustered round an ancient, moss-grown church."

No such place as Tredannick Wollas exists now, but there was a similarly sounding Preddanack, with this old church located by the sea. ♦



Further along the path, at Kynance Cove, was the most beautiful part of

the trip, with scattered sand beaches, cows roaming the cliffs, and a café where I stopped for scones and tea. Just past Kynance cove, I looked back and spotted the exact rock from the opening sequence of the Grenada adaptation and had to snap a selfie. ♦ Watson further described the place in March of 1897 as lonely moors with sinister atmosphere, and the most dangerous



stretch of the English coast. But as you can see from my photos, in May of 2016 it was positively idyllic. It did not in any way diminish the horror of the Devil's Foot from my imagination! ♦

Although the straight distance from Penzance to Lizard is only about 25 miles, I took my time enjoying the sights over four days and walked 70 miles. After walking this section of the path, I took a bus east and walked two other sections of the path. In all, I walked around 250 miles over two weeks.

**For more information** about planning a trip on the South West Coast path, including Baggage transfer—<https://www.luggagetransfers.co.uk/route/south-west-coast-path/> ♦ For more about Nancy Pearl's Doorways, see her Ted Talk at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjDMbixPSeQ>. ♦ If you're interested in reading more about walking the South West Coast, try

**The Salt Path: A Memoir** by Raynor Winn.





## Sherlock on Screen: The Devil's Foot

Continued from Page 2

...this. ♦ But the fact remains that, in later stories, Brett's manic periods sometimes got the better of him, and his disdain for the character he was playing can show through. While the episode was responsible for at least one young fan's conversion, in hindsight it



looks like the product of too few limitations being set on the star. Choices such as Brett's haircut, or weird headgear phase, or the clunky hallucination sequence, which in the end were not character choices at all, but Brett refusing to let go of a personal idea. ♦ One personal idea that, I think, *did* come off as thematically appropriate: his Holmes buries his cocaine in the sand, symbolically saying goodbye once and for all to that crutch to his imagination. That, at least, feels like an honest effort to update the source material to say something relevant to that moment, and I'm a little more willing to let it go. But whatever its faults, I'm glad it led me here.



## The Greatest Kind of Flattery

Continued from Page 5

...adventures, they have teasing references to some of the settings and backstories of Doyle's works yet completely original and satisfying plot-lines. Perhaps you would enjoy reading them too?

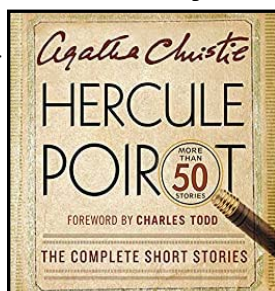
**Author's Note:** (Husband)

Al asked me if ACD and Agatha ever met and we have been searching through our books. Roger Johnson said he did not think so and directed me to the friends of Sherlock Holmes, to whom I just sent an enquiry. ♦ I also emailed an Agatha Christie Festival in Torquay and got this reply which I have a gut feeling will be the correct answer:

*"I don't believe they ever met. They moved in different circles and Conan Doyle would have been unlikely to have been impressed by Christie's early short stories, which owed much to his most famous creation. And when Christie went missing in 1926, Conan Doyle enlisted a psychometrist to locate her and that is hardly likely to have endeared him to her."*



Tony Medawar,  
Producer,  
International Agatha Christie Festival  
([www.iacf-uk.org/](http://www.iacf-uk.org/))



## Christmas Shoppers:

Continued from Page 1

them all, of course, at: [www.laudisi.com/petersonpipes.cfm/Christmas-2021-6938](http://www.laudisi.com/petersonpipes.cfm/Christmas-2021-6938)

④ Reader Jennie Paton spotted "The Complete Sherlock Holmes Book Ornament" at the on-line shop of the New York Public Library. [https://shop.nypl.org/search?type=product&q=Sherlock%20Holmes%20Book%20Page%20Ornament\\*](https://shop.nypl.org/search?type=product&q=Sherlock%20Holmes%20Book%20Page%20Ornament*). One does wonder, though, about the propriety of a library destroying books to make ornaments.

⑤ Reader Jennie Paton has noted the **RP World Model Store in Britain**, which offers 3.5" miniatures of Holmes and Watson, and 2.1" miniatures of Holmes, Watson and Moriarty. You can get them unpainted or painted. [https://toy-soldiers.store/advanced\\_search\\_result.php?keywords=Sherlock+Holmes](https://toy-soldiers.store/advanced_search_result.php?keywords=Sherlock+Holmes)



**SHOPPERS:** Al has another Christmas idea on Page 8 ➡ ➡

## Haugen Reports on BSI Lecture

Continued from Page 8

...And, one reason "Elementary" used a female Watson was that other TV procedurals at the time were made up of male/female teams. Interesting stuff!

If you missed this event, Professor Pearson's talk is scheduled to be put up on the BSI Trust website (*but has not yet been posted as of this writing*) at: [bsitrust.org](http://bsitrust.org).



The Sound  
of the  
Baskervilles

By appointment  
of Her Majesty,  
Queen Victoria

## Ineffable Twaddle

The monthly publication of  
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## A Book Review

By: SOB Al Nelson

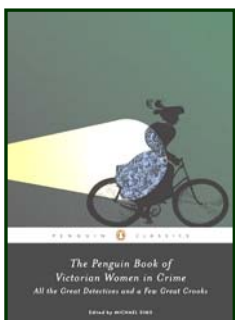
### The Penguin Book of Victorian Women in Crime:

*Forgotten Cops and Private Eyes  
from the Time of Sherlock Holmes*

Ed. By Michael Sims

This paperback, published in 2011, sat on my shelves for years until the last 18 months' shut-down forced a review of my personal library. It contains 11 stories about what can only be described as women detectives, even though such official persons did not exist then. The writing is somewhat archaic but I found several of the stories fascinating.

Only 3 or 4 of the stories were written by women and they are all somewhat obscure. Even the original publication date is in dispute for several.



What struck me was the similarity of some of the plot features. One story even had a woman criminal who dug a tunnel from one business into an underground bank vault only to be thwarted by a smart observer/detective.

These stories were written and published starting in the 1860's. I have only read three of the eleven thus far but feel this would be a nice stocking stuffer

for this Christmas, justifying this early review.

Shades of Doyle, Poe, and Agatha Christie are found throughout this slender volume. I highly recommend it!

## 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.

\$25 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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—\$25 for individuals, \$35 for families (U.S. funds only)—payable to The Sound of the Baskervilles—to:

SOB Treasurer  
P.O. Box 7633 • Tacoma, WA 98417

## Haugen Reports on BSI Lecture

By: PFL David Haugen

The BSI Trust presented Professor Roberta Pearson, of the Film and Television Studies at the University of Nottingham, in the first of their 2021 lecture series on October 2. Her talk was on "The Adventure of the Movable Detective," addressing how Holmes could adapt to multiple generations of readers and viewers.

Using clips from silent films and pictures from later ones, she sought to explain how the Holmes character has been adapted to different periods over the last 120 years. For example, Ms. Pearson pointed out that Watson wasn't needed during the silent movie era because he was a narrator, and you didn't need one for that type of film. William Gillette's play needed a love interest because all movies of that day had a love interest.

When Universal films took over from FOX for the Rathbone/Bruce series, as a smaller film company, they needed to save production costs: So, bringing Holmes and Watson into current times allowed for that, plus they could investigate problems their audiences would be familiar with.

A major difference between TV's "Elementary" and "Sherlock" was that BBC broadcast "Sherlock" at 8:00 p.m., during the children's viewing time, so the story had to reflect that. In the U.S., "Elementary" was broadcast during adult viewing time—10 p.m. ...

Continued on Page 7