



INEFFABLE TWADDLE



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

—*The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*

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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



☺ **SOB Maffie Rafferty let us know about the "Eggs Benedict" debacle on TV!! She adds, "I'm just glad they mention Sherlock at all! (instead of only mentioning the Marvel Cinematic Universe):** During (a January

2022) episode of *Celebrity Wheel of Fortune*, *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* actress **Tatyana Ali**, *The Sixth Sense* actor **Haley Joel Osment** and Australian restaurateur **Curtis Stone** competed on behalf of their chosen charities. At the game show's halfway point, Tatyana was in the lead, and she took a chance at solving a \$5,000 mashup puzzle in the category "Before & After." Even with several letters still missing from the board, she solved the puzzle correctly "Eggs Benedict Cumberbatch." But (host) Pat (Sajak) didn't immediately congratulate her on the big win and instead asked Tatyana for an explanation. ♦ "We know eggs benedict. Explain "Benedict Cumberbatch" for those who [don't know]," he said. Though Tatyana explained that Benedict Cumberbatch is a famous British actor, she started second guessing herself because she thought it was self-explanatory. That's when Pat revealed what was really going on. ♦ "I put the onus on her because I didn't have the answer," Pat said. "So I pretended like I was just saying 'Tell us. I, of course, know it, but you tell us.' And that was a little host trick, if you want to know...My apologies, Mr. Cumberbatch. But I spend a lot of time in my basement. I have no idea what's going on." ♦ After admitting to not knowing who the Oscar-nominated actor is, some folks took to Twitter to voice their disappointment. "You should apologize. Benedict is an amazing actor and has never given a bad performance. Shame on you Pat," one person wrote. "How does Pat not know who Benedict Cumberbatch is?" another added. "Pat Sajak doesn't know who Benedict Cumberbatch is? That's just (Dr.) Strange," a different fan said, referencing his Marvel Universe role. ♦ For those still wondering, Benedict is best known for portraying detective Sherlock Holmes in the BBC TV mystery ↗

drama *Sherlock*, inspired after British author **Sir Arthur Conan's** short stories. Throughout his two-decade career, Benedict has earned recognition for his work in the theater and onscreen, including *Hawking*, *Parade's End*, *Patrick's Melrose*, and *The Imitation Game*.



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Renewal Dues are Now Due

The SOB's fiscal and membership year, runs April 1 through March 31 each year!

Rates are: \$25 for individuals, \$35 for families (U.S. funds only)

Pay your dues with PayPal at our website: <https://www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/join/>

Or, send your check—payable to "The Sound of the Baskervilles"—to:

SOB Treasurer Melinda Michaelson
P.O. Box 7633
Tacoma, WA 98417

If you joined after October 1, 2021, chances are you paid a lower, prorated rate to join through March 31, 2022, so it's time for you to renew as well!

Thank you!

★ Zoom Meeting ★ Sunday, March 20, 2022

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

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



Says Program Chair Sunny,

“*The Adventure of the Retired Colourman*” may be a bit unfamiliar, as it’s not much portrayed in other media. It seems somewhat colorless at first read. The story unfolds through *misdirection* rather than *mystery*, and the villain, while despicable, is cartoonish in both his mannerisms and his passions.

However there is one character who *definitely* left me wanting more—the most curious Mr. Barker. Barker is a tall dark detective with tinted glasses and noted physicality, whom Holmes names as his “hated rival” (probably tongue in cheek since Holmes appears to like the man and they work well together). If like me, you want to read more about Mr. Barker, consider the excellent series by Will Thomas (starting with *Some Danger Involved*) in which Cyrus Barker, a Scottish private enquiry agent, and his Welsh assistant Thomas Llewelyn solve cases in 1890’s London. It’s a well-researched series with meaningful historical context and a hard-boiled flair. Like Holmes and Watson, Barker and Llewelyn are an odd match-up who *just work*. But Llewelyn as a narrator is decidedly more offbeat and cheeky than Watson. While not strictly speaking pastiche, the series will please any Sherlockian.

A Not-Shadowy Quiz on RETI

By: SOB Charlie Cook

1. What did Holmes ask Watson about all of life?
2. Name Holmes’ client!
3. What did the client’s company manufacture and where could their name be found?
4. Holmes asked Watson to help the client as the detective was working on what other case?
5. Name the client’s home!
6. With what cutting remark did Holmes interrupt Watson’s report on his assignment?
7. Name the client’s chess opponent!
8. What did the client ask Holmes to do?
9. From whom and where did the client receive a telegram?

10. Whom did Holmes discover was also working the case, and what was his relation to Holmes?
11. Who hired the other detective?
12. Name the policeman who also showed interest in the case!

Answers may be found on Page 7



SOB Kris Hambrick’s *Sherlock on Screen:*

The Adventure of the Retired Colourman

Almost as rare as Canonical stories with no adaptations is the Canonical story with only one, and in all other cases the only version is Eillie Norwood, largely unavailable to us. **The Retired Colourman** is, therefore, its own kind of anomaly: the story whose only adaptation exists in the form of the 1964 BBC series with Douglas Wilmer.

Wilmer is little known in Holmes circles, in large part because several episodes are missing but also because they are television stories in black and white that are overshadowed by flashier efforts both before and after. Wilmer actually left the show after only a handful of episodes because the working conditions and the quality had become intolerable. He was replaced by the very capable Peter Cushing, in colorized episodes that ran another season. (Wilmer and Cushing later commiserated over their mutual bad experience on the show.) In order for me to write this column, I had to buy an ex-library copy of the out-of-print DVD set. So it’s no wonder he’s not a scion-hold name.

The thirteen episodes commissioned originally were well-received, but when an option was taken out for a second series, Wilmer declined. According to him, working conditions had been deplorable and slipshod, with scripts coming in late and sometimes so bad he felt the need to rewrite them himself late at night.

But it’s a crying shame that, one, we didn’t get more, and, two, what we have is so difficult to come by.

Because Wilmer might just be my favorite Holmes. He is sharp, subtle when he needs to be, with a face that always seems to be holding back more than he’s saying. There’s always this air to him that he could say more, but he won’t, because he knows no one will follow him, and he’s a little bit resigned to that. It’s hard to describe this, but his performance is the closest to my own internal process when I’ve played Holmes. I have no idea what I present on the outside, but watching his face? His face is what I feel when I try...

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...Continued from Page 1

☺ SOB Bill Seil saw this in the January 18 Seattle Times: ➡ ➡

☺ Suggests SOB Kris Hambrick (SOB Columnist of "Sherlock on Screen"): **Obscure Sherlock Holmes in Television...**

If you have interest in participating in [a tiny film club](#) devoted to viewing less-seen and less-available takes on Holmesian media, let me know!

I think there's a lot of really cool Holmes-related material out there we DON'T see that often, either due to lack of popularity or lack of access. ♦ The two that inspired me to think about starting a tiny film club were the *new* anime from Japan *Moriarty: the Patriot* and the *older* Douglas Wilmer series from the BBC. Neither is readily available without a subscription or an out-of-print DVD, so these are good examples. But I can see this expanding to other properties if and when SOB Members have interest—both as a way to share the wealth when it comes to hard-to-find media and to spur you to see something you wouldn't normally seek out for yourself. Sometimes it's easier to make it through *something weird* or, frankly, *less great* when you have company doing it! ♦ I've created a poll, too, to help me measure interest from SOB Members and to help you see where my thoughts are heading—suggested days, times for meeting, frequency, which shows are you interested in: <https://forms.gle/oKRkenhfJVxaDwNaA>. Please take a few moments to complete this poll if you have *any* interest in a tiny film club! ♦ I'm super excited about starting this project because, as you may know, adaptation and riffing on a theme is my passion! And I love to see how different actors, creators, and even countries perceive our hero! ♦ So, contact me if questions develop at: krishambrick@gmail.com

Ed. Note: *If you have previously responded to Kris' poll (above), will you please do it again??...as Kris has misplaced her list of respondents' email addresses!!*

☺ From Friend of The SOB's Steve Mason, BSI re: **The 2015-2021 Baker Street Elementary Compilations...**

Joe Fay, Rusty Mason, and I are elated to have completed our 7th year presenting the "First Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson in **BAKER STREET Elementary.**"



[Here is the link to the 2021 Annual](#), which includes a wonderful introduction by *Monica Schmidt, BSI, ASH*, as well as the bi-weekly commentaries from *Scott Monty, BSI, ASH*. We are proud to have both of these special Sherlockians as part of our little endeavor:

➡ **2021:** http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/uploads/3/7/3/8/37380505/2021_baker_street_elementary_annual.pdf

You may also see the 2015 to 2020 Annuals at:

➡ **2015:** http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/uploads/3/7/3/8/37380505/2015_baker_street_elementary_annual.pdf

➡ **2016:** http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/uploads/3/7/3/8/37380505/2016_baker_street_elementary_annual.pdf

➡ **2017:** http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/uploads/3/7/3/8/37380505/2017_baker_street_elementary_annual.pdf

➡ **2018:** http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/uploads/3/7/3/8/37380505/2018_baker_street_elementary_annual.pdf

➡ **2019:** http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/uploads/3/7/3/8/37380505/2019_baker_street_elementary_annual.pdf

➡ **2020:** http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/uploads/3/7/3/8/37380505/2020_baker_street_elementary_annual.pdf

☺ **Two Timely Items from Sherlockian Peter Blau...**

As part of the Sherlock Holmes birthday celebration, on Thursday morning, January 13, the Arthur Conan Doyle Society's [Inaugural Doylean Awards Ceremony](#) was held at the Mysterious Bookshop. Their website is: www.acd-society.com. To view a video of the meeting go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTRW1YSpU-U>.

["Books, Bohemians, and Baker Street: A Study in Sherlock in Special Collections"](#) is the title of a splendid on-line exhibition at the University of Delaware Library; many of the items are from the collection of Mark Samuels Lasner. There are unique items such as a four-page typescript and an autographed manuscript page from the lecture Conan Doyle gave during his tour of the U.S. in 1894 (easily readable at the website), and the exhibition is well worth exploring.

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

⇒ **Sunday, February 20 was...INTERNATIONAL PIPE-SMOKING DAY!!** Our guest at that day's meeting, Noah "Kap" Kaplowitz provided that nugget. We then learned about the Seattle Pipe-Smoking Club to which SOBs Larry Raisch, Larry Miller and Tim Kline belong! After the meeting ended, when many stay around to chat, they plus Al Nelson, Talia Bordallo and guest Kap provided a "show & tell" of their many and interesting pipes!

⇒ **Mea Culpa from Editor Terri...TO SOB RICK SIEM** who, back in December, provided *advanced* information about the "SHERLOCK HOLMES IN 221 OBJECTS" exhibit that opened at the Grolier Club in New York City on January 12 and will run through April 16, 2022! My apologies, Rick!

⇒ **Some News from SOB Bill Seil...**

- Here's more to read about the display "SHERLOCK HOLMES IN 221 OBJECTS" at the Grolier Club in NYC. This article originally appeared in The Wall Street Journal. <https://excellentpix.com/sherlock-holmes-in-221-objects-review-magnificent-obsession.html>
- UNCLE HUGO'S BOOKSTORE (mystery / science fiction) in Minneapolis was burned during a 2020 riot. There is a fund raiser to help rebuild it at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/let-us-help-save-uncle-hugo039s>

⇒ **PFL David announced this...**It's a wrap! Filming on THE NEXT "ENOLA HOLMES" FILM has been completed, and there's brief footage from the celebration. No title has been given, and there's no word yet on when the film will stream on Netflix.

⇒ **SOB Lauran Stevens** sent this offering from **Acorn Online.com** (1-844-734-8470)...**THE SHERLOCK HOLMES VAULT COLLECTION:** "Call yourself a Sherlockian? Then these meticulously restored classic mysteries need to be part of your (video) collection. Including "The Fatal Hour" (1931), "The Triumph of Sherlock Holmes" (1935), "Silver Blaze" (1937), and "A Study in Scarlet" (1933), the Vault Collection also comes with 4 original poster replications and exclusive interviews and commentary with film history icon, Samuel M. Sherman. B & W, 4 episodes, 5 hours, 4 DVDs or Blu-ray discs. DVD (XE8042DV), \$49.99; Blu-ray (XE8042BR), \$59.99.

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

- To celebrate the London Society's 70th anniversary, the winter issue of **THE SHERLOCK HOLMES JOURNAL** included a Platinum Jubilee Supplement. In the supplement, Nicholas Utechin's article, "Extant Exhibits," examines the original items from the 1951 Exhibition ⇨

whose whereabouts are still unknown. As this article is of such historical interest and importance, it has been made accessible on our website: <https://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/the-sherlock-holmes-exhibition-of-1951-lives-on/>. By the way, our excellent Journal is available only to members and associate members of the Society, so why not consider joining us? You can find details at <https://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/shop/membership-new>.

- George Vanderburgh (The Battered Silicon Dispatch Box) advises that he has updated the **ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES JOURNAL (E-SHJ)** and it is now ready for purchase and distribution. The original was released in 2003, including all issues up to Summer 2002, along with supplementary material and comprehensive Index by our member, Geraldine Beare. The new version/supplement continues from Winter 2002 up to Summer 2019. Ordering and payment details are as follows: For new purchasers, the Price is £110/US \$150 via Paypal. The folder will be sent via We Transfer. For previous purchasers the price is £40/US \$55.00 and the folder will be sent by We Transfer. For more details and to place an order you can contact George at: george.vanderburgh@gmail.com

- **POTTER & POTTER AUCTION House** has provided a direct link to the catalogue for their 26th February auction: <https://auctions.potterauctions.com/mobile/catalog.aspx?autionid=1127>. The main items of interest to Sherlockians begins with Lot 478, an inscribed copy of August Derleth's *Sign of Fear: A Judge Peck Mystery* continuing up to Lot 517, a collection of Derleth's Solar Pons stories. In between, there are many interesting lots including early editions of ACD's books, some foreign editions, a number of versions of The Hound (some with rare dust jackets), many bound and/or single issues of *The Strand* magazine, and even a tin tray advertising *The Strand*.

- **THERE IS A CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY TO SAVE THE NAME AND IDENTITY OF BART'S & THE LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY.** According to information received from Alistair Rookes, "Our parent institution, Queen Mary University of London (QMUL), has decided to change our name to QMUL Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, against the wishes of our students, staff and alumni. The decision to erase our identity is an attack not only on medical history, but on a part of the heritage of this country. St Bartholomew's Hospital was founded in 1123, making it the oldest remaining hospital in the country. St Bartholomew's Medical College was, of course, the school of Dr. John Watson. We would appreciate any support you could offer by signing this petition: <https://www.bartslondon.com/wearebl>." ...

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Introducing Our Newest Member,

FRANK CONNELL

He lives in Deganwy, Wales (across the river from Conwy) and has selected "Shoscombe Old Place" as his Canonical alter-ego!

He's our first Welsh Member, and he says he's anxious to meet us at the March 20 Zoom Meeting!

Welcome, Frank!!

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

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● **OH, TO BE IN LONDON:** If you're in London between 9th February and 12th March, you can catch "Whodunnit (Unrehearsed) 2": "When a diamond is stolen and the bodies start to pile up, the clock starts ticking for our illustrious Inspector. Can they finally bring the elusive Crimson Hand to justice? EVERY PERFORMANCE FEATURES THE VOICES OF IAN MCKELLEN, EMMA THOMPSON AND STEPHEN FRY BUT ALSO A DIFFERENT CELEBRITY IN EACH PERFORMANCE STEPPING IN AS THE INSPECTOR WITHOUT ANY REHEARSAL AND WITHOUT EVER HAVING SEEN THE SCRIPT! Guests will have their lines fed to them live onstage via an earpiece as they attempt to crack the case, avoid the furniture and stagger their way to justice...the mystery is who will walk through the door at your performance! You can view the full list of celebrity guests (which includes a few members of the London Society!) and book your tickets at: <https://www.parktheatre.co.uk/whats-on/whodunnit-unrehearsed-2>

⇒ From Peter Blau's Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press:

● **KEN LUDWIG'S "BASKERVILLE"** is running at the Port Angeles Community Theatre in Port Angeles, WA through March 14, 2022 (pacommunityplayers.org). It is also due at the Little Theatre of Fall River in Fall River, MA, March 17 to 27, 2022 (www.littletheatre.net), and it will be produced at Baker Street West in Jackson, CA, April 1 to May 14, 2022 (www.bakerstreetwest.com).

● **"SHERLOCK HOLMES CONSULTING DETECTIVE"** (a game issued by Sleuth Publications in 1981) now has an entry at Wikipedia. Revised and expanded since 1981, the game now is available as four sets of ten cases each from SPACE Cowboys. Their website offers much more information as well as a video and a free opportunity to pursue one of the cases. Anyone who remembers the original game will be amazed at how far it has come over the years, how well it uses modern technology, and how long the game has lasted. <https://www.spacecowboys.fr/sherlock-holmes-consultingdetective>. ↗

● **FANS OF THE 2019 "DETECTIVE PIKACHU"** FILM will enjoy a new fan-film animation, "Detective Pikachu: A Christmas Case," that was uploaded to YouTube on Dec. 25 at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krTu8-CI2DY>. The quality is thoroughly professional.

● **FROM BAKER STREET IRREGULARS PRESS:**

A Masterpiece of Villainy is the new addition to the Manuscript Series (244 pp., \$39.95), edited by Ross E. Davies; it offers a facsimile of the manuscript of "The Norwood Builder", with an annotated transcription and scholarly commentary on the manuscript and on various aspects of the story. It is grand that the Manuscript Series offers readers an opportunity to come close to the moment when the stories were written, and the commentary is delightful.

Referring to My Notes: Music and the Sherlockian Canon, edited by Alexander Katz and Karen Wilson (173 pp., \$39.95) is the next title in the BSI's Professions Series, explores what Nicholas Meyer, in his foreword, calls "the possibilities suggested by Doyle when he so blithely made Holmes a violinist and an opera devotee," and the scholarship extends to discussion of musicians who have been members of the BSI, and some of the Sherlockian musicals performed on stage.

⇒ Both the above books (and many others) can be ordered at: www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/tag/books.

● **THE 1921 CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES IS ONLINE AND SEARCHABLE** at the National Archives; you need to pay to see results, but the Daily Mail published an article on January 6 with images of the pages listing the people at Conan Doyle's home when the census was taken, which included: the five members of the family, five servants, and three visitors: parapsychologist James Hewat McKenzie, his wife Barbara, and the American medium Ada Besinnet. For more: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10374171/Life-post-First-World-War-Britain-revealed-1921-census-released.html>

● **SHERLOCK HOLMES IN OZ** by Gary Lovisi (\$12.99 pb) is a new original novel that sets Holmes and Watson upon a case in America...

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Book Review

By: SOB Margaret Nelson

This is a rather interesting book we have that I finally read—really good and another aspect of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

A few of the stories were written with a woman narrator. The Introduction pointed out that Conan Doyle had a strong woman for a mother and that his sisters worked as governesses to help pay his way through medical school, so he knew about women. I never thought about bluff, brisk, athletic Conan Doyle being able to pull off narration as a woman, but he did!

So I find, as a rule, that I like his short stories and his “Brigadier Gerard” series—though his horror stories, not so much.

“Uncollected Stories: the Unknown Conan Doyle”

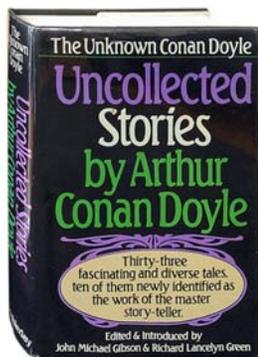
compiled by John Michael Gibson and Richard Lancelyn Green, NY, 1982

Arthur Conan Doyle was versatile, he could write historical novels, horror stories, comic tales and several other genres. As (my husband) Al said, “He wrote it all.”

“Uncollected Stories” is a collection of thirty-three (33) diverse Conan Doyle stories and shows his multitude of styles. These works were published between 1879 and 1930, though some were written prior to 1879. Conan Doyle started writing fiction when he was a medical student and suffered the indignity of having some of these works rejected by publishers before he became famous for creating Sherlock Holmes. Today we can be glad they were published and are available.

Why did Conan Doyle try these different types of works? He must have been “sparked” by something he heard, read, observed or imagined and set it down on paper. Some of these were published anonymously and in diverse publications like “Temple Bar,” “London Society,” “Chamber’s Journal,” “Boy’s Own Paper,” and “The Strand Magazine.”

To show his range of topics and styles, this book contains “Our Derby Sweepstakes” with a woman narrator; “The Heiress of Glenmahowley,” an ironic tale; “The Fate of the Evangeline” and “Touch and Go: a Midshipman’s Story,” both nautical adventures; ↗



“Uncle Jeremy’s Household,” dealing with Anglo-Indians; “Our Midnight Visitor,” a mystery set on a remote Scottish island; “The Recollections of Captain Wilkie,” where our narrator begins by trying to guess the occupation of someone sitting opposite him in the train; and “The Parish Magazine” about a clever deception. There are twenty-five more, all different.

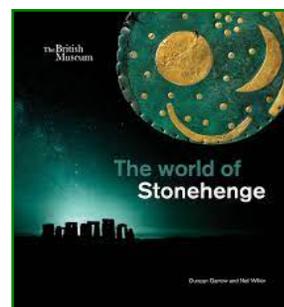
These stories are interesting and entertaining for students of Conan Doyle, and you will certainly find something you like in this book.

News from The U.K.

Both excerpted from **The Seattle Times**, February 20, 2022 issue, [seattletimes.com](https://www.seattletimes.com)

“British Exhibition Digs into a 4,500-Year-Old-Enigma”

There’s a new exhibition at the British Museum—“The World of Stonehenge”—that runs through July 17 this year and “strives to lessen the mystery around the monument by focusing on recent discoveries and putting them in the context of life in Britain, Ireland and northwestern Europe before, during and after Stonehenge’s construction.” Did you know there was a structure that preceded Stonehenge: a stone circle built on the same spot some 500 years earlier, which according to archaeologists, was a cemetery? So far the remains of 150 to 200 people have been found there! While opinions vary, beliefs about the stone array have included an astronomical calculator, or an observatory, or a place of healing or with mystical powers, and plenty of “alien-origin theories.” The exhibit’s lead curator, Neil Wilkin, is quoted as saying, “Stonehenge was an important place that people went to, to be together as a community,”... “a mix between a town hall and a cathedral, where people mingled for both religious and social reasons.” Check it out at: https://www.britishmuseum.org/exhibitions/world-stonehenge?gclid=EAlaIqobChMI8tvs3t6g9lVGxtBh1k1ABLEAAYASA BEgLkOPD_BwE



Where Did Those Dirty Diapers Go? In Wales, They’re Driving on Them

Yes, Wales is a leader in new and innovative ways to deal with recycling and rubbish! “(M)ore than 100,000 dirty, disposable diapers (‘nappies’) are being used to help pave a road”... after being “rinsed thoroughly, then shredded into fibrous gray pellets and mixed with asphalt”... that a work crew “slathered over a 1.5-mile stretch of winding highway.” In Swansea, culprits who fail a “clink test” when their bins are shaken have to pay a £100 fine. And, Conwy was the first town to introduce “once-a-month rubbish collection (not without howls of protest)” with food waste collection up 31% and recycling of dry materials up 16%.

Sherlock on Screen: The Retired Colourman

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...to take on that role.



The shows themselves are variable, with a high degree of fidelity and some quite decent guest stars but shoddy sets (I've yet to see a banister that could handle being actually used as assistance up the stairs). Nigel Stock is a passable but uninspiring Watson. But the ones I've seen all retain the spirit of the original stories and

Douglas Wilmer deserves far more credit as a Holmes interpreter than he is given.

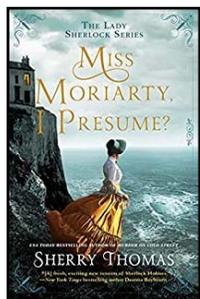
Ed. Note: Douglas Wilmer is described by many in the Society as *the* Sherlock Holmes. Born January 8th, 1920 in London, and educated at King's, Canterbury, Douglas Wilmer's film debut was in 1954, in Laurence Olivier's *Richard III* as Dorset. **For more:** <https://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/conan-doyle/television/douglas-wilmer/#:-:text=Douglas%20Wilmer%20is%20described%20by,Olivier%27s%20Richard%20III%20as%20Dorset>.

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

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...where they travel to Oz on a missing person case, and the **Case of the Red Poppy Menace**.

● **THE AUTUMN ISSUE OF THE MAGIC DOOR** (published by the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library) includes articles by Hartley R. Nathan and Charles L. Blanksteen (on "Arthur Conan Doyle: Stereotypes and Racism") and Elizabeth Savage ("In Search of Conan Doyle: Messages from the Afterlife"), and other reports from and about the Library and the Collection; the newsletter can be requested from Cliff Goldfarb, Toronto Public Library, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto M4W 2G8, Canada.



● **MISS MORIARTY, I PRESUME?** by Sherry Thomas (\$16.00), is the sixth book in her "Lady Sherlock" series that stars Charlotte Holmes, who does her detecting while pretending to be the sister of the non-existent Sherlock Holmes, and encounters both mystery and romance while (now) in dire peril in a battle with Moriarty. The author's website is at www.sherrythomas.com.

● David Stuart Davies' ninth Holmes novel, **THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES—REVENGE FROM THE GRAVE**, is now available (\$14.95). "When Professor Moriarty plunged over the Reichenbach Falls the world believed that Sherlock Holmes was also dead. Three years later Holmes has returned—but so, too, has a deadly threat. With Moriarty's criminal empire very much alive, Holmes and Watson are forced to ask themselves if their greatest foe really did ↗

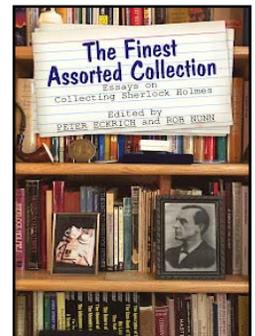
Answers To Cook's Quiz on Page 2:

1. "Is not all of life pathetic and futile?"
2. Jason Amberly.
3. Artist's materials; on paint boxes.
4. The case of the two Coptic patriarchs.
5. The Haven.
6. "Cut out the poetry, Watson,..."
7. Dr. Ray Ernest.
8. Find his wife and chess opponent and the funds they stole from him.
9. Vicar J. C. Elman; the vicarage in Little Purlington.
10. Mr. Barker; Holmes' hated rival upon the Surrey shore.
11. Dr. Ernest's family.
12. Inspector MacKinnon.



perish...". Davies wishes to assure readers that, yes, Moriarty really is dead!

● **THE FINEST ASSORTED COLLECTION: ESSAYS ON COLLECTING SHERLOCK HOLMES**, edited by Peter Eckrich and Rob Nunn (Gasogene Books, 232 pp., \$26.95) an impressive gathering of essays written by people who pursue a wide variety of Sherlockiana and who have interesting things to say about it all. And Dan Andriacco's **THE SWORD OF DEATH** (105 pp., \$18.95), a nicely traditional pastiche that has Holmes and Watson investigating a case that involves a headless corpse and complicated family relationships; Dan's website is at www.bakerstreetbeat.blogspot.com.



● Nicely in time for the birthday festivities, the **YALE ALUMNI MAGAZINE CELEBRATED CONAN DOYLE** with an article by Betsy Golden Kellem about "The Man Who Believed Too Much" in its Jan.-Feb. issue, noting that in 1922 he lectured at Yale while touring the U.S. promoting Spiritualism. The article is accompanied by a fine portrait of Conan Doyle by Ricardo Martinez Ortega. <https://yalealumnimagazine.com/articles/5428-the-man-who-believed-too-much>.

● **JOHN MURRAY'S NEW IMPRINT "BASKERVILLE"** (Jun 21 #4) has now launched, with an appropriate logo. The name of the imprint honors Murray's long history as Conan Doyle's publisher; there's more about "Baskerville" and some of its new titles in an article in the *Bookseller* (Jan. 18). <https://www.thebookseller.com/news/john-murrays-new-crime-imprint-baskerville-launches-herron-and-boyle-1300305>.



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

Ineffable Twaddle

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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.

\$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 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.

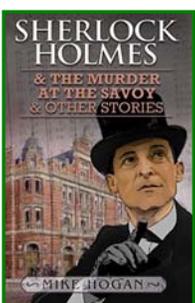
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Book Review By: SOB Charlie Cook

Sherlock Holmes Murder At The Savoy & Other Stories

By Mike Hogan

Always a fan of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, I was delighted to run across this five short-story collection of G&S related Holmes pastiches.



"One Little Maid from School" finds Sherlock and a competitor investigating the disappearance of one of the maids appearing in "The Mikado." Was she kidnaped or did she bolt because she didn't get the part of Yum-Yum? Which sleuth will discover the truth? Ha! In "Murder at The Savoy" the Baker Street duo has been invited by D'Oyly Carte to the opening of "Ruddigore." A terrible performance by an inept cast allows Holmes to catch up on his sleep. But he fared

better than two brothers who mysteriously died during separate performances. Mr. Carte desperately seeks Holmes' help. Of course, he'll get it. "A Scandal in Tite Street" finds Holmes challenged to a duel by a man who looks exactly like the character Reginald Bunthorne in G&S's new comic opera, "Patience." But it's not the actor, it's Oscar Wilde! The match will be settled by boxing! The challenge possibly may be related to some embarrassing letters that the Prince of Bulgaria hires the detective to recover. "Trial by Jury" is also the title of a G&S operetta. Lestrade begins the tale by arresting Holmes for murdering Charles Augustus Milverton. A trial ensues but not for murder—as Sherlock is quickly cleared of the charge. Canon devotees will recall that the detective proposed marriage to the black-mailer's housekeeper and he is on trial for breach of promise. 🍀

He needs help from Wiggins and Watson to beat the rap. But how? Finally, in "The Moving Finger Writes," while the Queen and her distinguished guests are preparing to be entertained by G&S's "The Gondoliers," Holmes is secretly brought to the palace to investigate messages of international consequences on the mirror in Albert's preserved study long after his death—the Queen claiming they are in the Prince Consort's handwriting. For Holmes: "No apparitions need apply." Skulduggery exists!

I enjoyed these delightful clever and humor filled little episodes and so did my "sisters and my cousins and my aunts." Hopefully you might be entertained by them too.



Renewal Dues are Now Due

The SOB's fiscal and membership year, runs April 1 through March 31 each year!

Rates are: \$25 for individuals, \$35 for families (U.S. funds please!)

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Thank you!