



# 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

## WHAT'S NEW

☺ **The SOBs' March 20, 2022 Zoom Meeting featured our Annual Awards!!** Beginning with our 2022 Annual "Footprints of a Gigantic Hound" trophy, PFL David announced: "It is awarded to individuals who have enhanced this scion society and helped our members to enjoy the Sherlock Holmes' stories more fully. This year's winner is **Kris Hambrick**. If you have read your monthly *Ineffable Twaddle*, you will have read her illuminating monthly column 'Sherlock on Screen,' which has appeared since January 2021. It is always a fascinating discussion of the screen version of the story we will be discussing that month—assuming that there was one. A hearty SOB toast to **Kris Hambrick**. Without whom! Hear! Hear!" ♦ **Secretary Terri** followed up with the announcement of this year's Members being recognized for completing two (2) years membership with The SOBs, who will receive their permanent member ID number and Certificate of Membership. They were (*in order of their date of joining from January through November, 2019*): **Mike & Rikkie Thomas; Matt Stout, Kris Hambrick, Jennifer Yoakum, Patrick Ewing, Beth Gallego, Chuck Kovacic, Kevin Lineburg, David Merrell, Robert Perret, Linda Robinson, Haley Rudell, Teri White, and Erin Koehler**. "Kudos, and thank you for your loyalty!"

☺ **Our 2022 Footprints of a Gigantic Hound Winner SOB Kris Hambrick was unable to attend our March Meeting!** She told us later that she was...at that exact time...on stage in a play in Marysville, WA; she is an actor, you know!!

Here's what she wrote to PFL David: "I was very surprised and so touched! One never knows if one is being read at all, so that was lovely to hear. I'm so sad I missed it but it looks like I'll be at the next meeting, when I hope I can convey to the group my delight and honor in receiving such an illustrious award!"



**Easter falls on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in April this year, so our April Zoom Meeting will occur—one week early—on Sunday, April 10!!**



☺ A fun and easy contest has been proposed by SOBs Margaret & Allen Nelson! You know Watson's hero and ours, Sherlock Holmes, but how well do you know about the private life of his agent, Sir Arthur? Here's your chance to dive right into it:

**Submit a response to this question and it will appear in a future issue of this newsletter!! The question:** *What is your favorite real-life story, event or nugget of info about Arthur Conan Doyle's life?* An example, "When Conan Doyle won a cricket match due to his hits in 1897." ♦ And, there's no deadline...**yet!** If your answer doesn't hit you until June or July, or even later, send it in then! The **final** deadline will be announced later! ♦ The names of those who DO provide answers will be put in a hat and, toward year-end, one or more of them will be drawn for nifty prizes!! *There might also be something special for our first respondent!* ♦ You choose the length of your answer and how many entries you'll submit. Just email your answers to: [terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com). **Thank you!**



☺ **The SOBs need Speakers, says PFL David!** We have been fortunate this year in having presentations made at our first three meetings: **SOBs Roger Johnson in January and Rich Krisciunas in February, and guest "Kap" Kaplowitz in March**. I would like to see this trend continue. ♦ Is there something you think your fellow SOBs would be interested in learning? It could be about a character or a story; or something like a discussion about how often Holmes deals with blackmailers, or ...

Continued on Page 3

## Zoom Meeting

★ **Sunday, April 10, 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 “SIXN”**



### Says Program Chair Sunny,

“*The Adventure of the Six Napoleons*”

is one story that frequently makes Sherlockian top-ten lists. Indeed it has it all—clues, action, murder, even poor ol’ Lestrade astray until the end. The denouement is particularly satisfying, and Conan Doyle dwells on it lovingly:

*“Lestrade and I sat silent for a moment, and then with spontaneous impulse, we both broke out clapping as at the well-wrought crisis of a play. ... (Holmes) bowed to us like the master dramatist who receives the homage of his audience.”*

But one aspect of this classic has always puzzled me: this popularity of Napoleon among the English educated class. It’s not just this one story—Napoleon was openly admired in 19<sup>th</sup> century English popular culture through paintings, biographies, and novels. It seems odd, considering all that bloodshed was not far removed from the Victorian era. After all, this period also saw the birth of British nationalism and the denigration of all things French. Choosing to exhibit a bust of the late emperor in one’s library seems to be making a certain kind of statement to me, just not sure what. This reminds me of a word I ran across recently: *historiography*, which loosely means historical analysis... [Continued on Page 7](#)

## A “Bust”-ing Good Quiz on SIXN

**By: SOB Charlie Cook**

1. What detective brought the smashing of busts of Napoleon to Holmes’ attention?
2. Where was the first destroyed bust found?
3. Where were the second and third statues broken?
4. Holmes reminded Watson of what classic case having the least promising commencement?
5. What was it that brought that case to Holmes’ attention?
6. From whose home was bust number four taken?
7. Name the Italian piece-worker who left the shop of Morse Hudson!
8. Where had the busts originated?
9. Who was the murdered man found on the door- ➔

step of the owner of bust number four?

10. What did Watson say was Holmes’ favorite weapon?
11. Name the owners of bust numbers five and six!
12. What case did Holmes turn to upon completion of the Six Napoleons’ case?

[Answers may be found on Page 7](#)



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

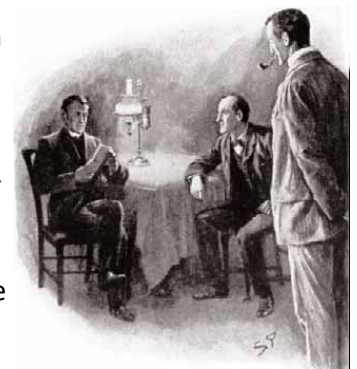
### The Adventure of the Six Napoleons

The number of adaptations is not necessarily a sign of how good a Sherlock Holmes story is, but it’s definitely something one should take notice of. This one, while not measuring up to Milverton or Hound in terms of outings, certainly gets some sort of award for variety. Not only is it assayed by Norwood, Rathbone (*twice?!*), Wilmer, Brett, Cumberbatch, Miller, and the unfrozen 22<sup>nd</sup> century Holmes, but the basic plot itself shows up in other works, such as an episode of the old George Reeves “Superman” TV show.

The truth is, it’s a versatile plot trick that must be fairly compelling to use or Universal films wouldn’t have done it twice. You have six of something, the thing you are looking for is in one, and it’s a race to figure out what’s been hidden and who wants it. So, it’s little wonder it’s got a wide representation among Holmes programs old and new.

But aside from that, I want to point out that the Granada telling of this adventure is notable as being, in my opinion, one of the standout episodes of the whole series. While Brett was indeed beginning to suffer the effects of ill-health, it is not obvious here, and indeed some of his own energy and spirit is translated into a lovely sort of humorous camaraderie with Watson that isn’t always visible in these stories.

In addition, this adaptation fleshes out the Italian immigrant backstory, to the extent that six minutes pass before more than a few words of English is even heard and no translation is given *or needed* to understand the setup. In a way, the untranslated dialogue actually humanizes the struggle of characters who are, in the original story, mere ciphers. ... [Continued on Page 7](#)



# WHAT'S NEW

...Continued  
from Page 1

...something/someone else; or some Victorian oddity that intrigues you. **If so, let me know and we'll get you on our schedule for this year or next!** Write me at: [david@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:david@soundofthebaskervilles.com) ♠ While it's probably a good idea to have some notes you can refer to and a few general questions for the group to get your discussion going, **there's no specific format to employ.** Use slides or not, your choice. You would get **up to 20 minutes for your talk** and it would occur right after my story discussion. ♠ Please give it a go! It's always amazing to me what specialized knowledge each one of you have!



☺ **Six-year vet of this Club, SOB Francis Bond—whom we met at the 2016 Watson Washington Con in Seattle when he was on sabbatical for a year at the U-Dub—has moved!** ♠ Before returning home in May 2017, Francis decided to go out with a bang, putting on just an excellent

program on “The Adventure of the Speckled Band”, interweaving the case with his avocation of creating, with his son Arthur, a Sherlockian website with the aim of providing consistency in the translation of Doyle’s Canon from English to other world-wide languages! He & Arthur also had an essay on this subject in our 2017 issue of *Beaten’s Christmas Annual*. ♠ An Australian by birth, he’d been all these years working as a linguistics prof at Nanyang Technological University in **Singapore**. The news is that he has now moved to...the **Czech Republic!** He tells us that, no, he does not yet speak Czech, but, “*It will be my first Slavic language, so as a linguist I am excited.*” As to his son Arthur whom we met while they were here in Seattle, Francis says, “*He is at University in Australia, so (I see him) just for holidays.*” And, as to participating in our Zoom Meetings, “*The timing is better, so I hope that I will be able to.*”

## Tracking Down the Pub Name!

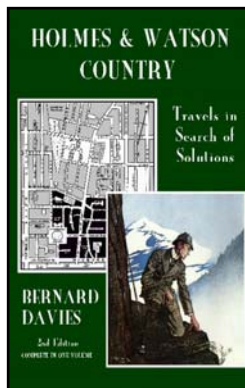
**Says contributor Margaret Nelson:** “*I liked the “tracking down” of the pub name from BLUE—where Henry Baker was a member of the goose-club organized there—and wanted to share it with The SOBs!*”

**Source: Holmes and Watson Country  
– Travels in Search of Solutions**

**By Bernard Davies, BSI, Sherlock Holmes  
Society of London, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2021**

**Ed note:** Excerpted from the chapter titled, “Alpha Plus,” pp. 118 & 119

*I remember as a boy exploring my mother’s book-case and coming across a slim volume of essays with the fascinating but strange author’s name upon its spine—‘Alpha of the Plough.’ This I later discovered, was the pen-name of the Chelmsford-born journalist, Alfred George Gardiner (1865-1946), who, after many years on provincial papers, became editor of the Daily News from 1902 to*



*1919 and the best-known Liberal newspaperman of his day. When he retired from the paper he took up an equally successful career as a columnist, critic and belletrist. His pseudonym stood for the Alpha or first star of the constellation of Ursa Major, or the Great Bear—generally called ‘The Plough’ in Britain, but frequently ‘Charles’s Wain’ or ‘The Dipper’ elsewhere, from a fancied resemblance to the outline of a plough, a cart or a ladle. The Alpha is the star named ‘Dubhe,’ the uppermost of the two pointers, nearest the Pole Star.*



*One of the young Conan Doyle’s acquaintances in Southsea was Major-General Alfred Drayson, F.R.A.S., a retired Professor of Surveying and Astronomy at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. Apart from part-nering each other at billiards and attending Spiritualist séances, he and ACD had helped to make up a holiday party in the New Forest. They both belonged to the Portsmouth Literary and Scientific Society, where the General frequently lectured on astronomy, having published several technical works and at least one popular book on the subject. This acquaintanceship virtually ensured that Dr. Conan Doyle knew all there was about the Alpha of the Plough. In consequence I never doubted for a moment which public-house in Museum Street was the home of the goose-club which furnished Mr. Baker’s Christmas dinner.*

*For many years I remained secure in the knowledge that this was just one of those things on which I was happy to differ from the rest of humanity. During this time, in which I eventually joined the Sherlock Holmes Society of London and also began taking Americans and other ...Continued on Page 7*

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

⇒ PFL David sent out an e-blast on March 25 with this:

If you are reading this, it means you may still have, at least, A PASSING INTEREST IN BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH. Well, here's your chance to read about all of the training he had to go through for Dr. Strange 2. <https://www.msn.com/en-us/movies/news/how-benedict-cumberbatch-got-ripped-for-doctor-strange-2/ar-AAVsovK>. If the quotes are right, he really enjoys physically transforming himself for the roles he is playing. *Quick! Someone, get him some Sherlockian scripts where he not only deduces but must also transform himself physically for the disguises, he must use to get the data that he needs!*

⇒ VP Kashena told us at the March 20 Meeting:

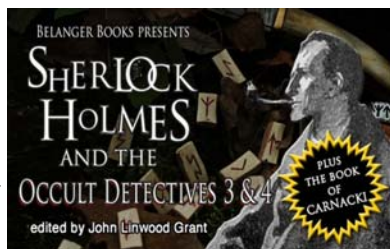
Traveling recently in L.A., I discovered "BOOKS, INC." which is apparently the oldest independent bookstore in the West. <https://www.booksinc.net/> (This website can take a little time to load). While there I picked up *The Book of Extraordinary New Sherlock Holmes Stories*, edited by Maxim Jakubowski...quickly noticing the story titled, "The Adventure of the Black Key," written by none other than our own SOB Naching T. Kassa, our Club's Twitter administrator! ♦ You can get it on Amazon but I recommend people get it at their local independent bookstore!!

⇒ From Editor Terri...The Kickstarter project for *Sherlock Holmes & the Occult Detectives 3 & 4 Plus Carnacki* has now ended, having raised over \$12,000. NOW IT'S TIME TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT BY BUYING THE PUBLISHED BOOK! ♦ Edited

by John Linwood Grant, publisher Derrick Belanger describes it as: "More magical mysteries featuring Sherlock Holmes and his arcane allies! Plus, *The Book of Carnacki!* New adventures of the ghost finder!"

**Ed. Note:** In Volume 4 is SOB Naching T. Kassa's story, "The Case of the Colonel's Corpse."

⇒ This from SOB Margaret Nelson...From Stanford's London (7 Mercer Walk, Covent Garden, London; email [sales@stanfords.co.uk](mailto:sales@stanfords.co.uk)): "FOLLOW IN THE STEPS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES IN 'THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES!' Stanford's map store—the map store in central London where Holmes went to buy his topographic maps of Dartmoor in 'Hound'—has something of interest: a Sherlock Holmes Map of London. The cost is £9.99 plus additional £11 shipping to the U.S. for the first copy, then an additional £3 for each additional copy. It is currently in stock online <https://www.stanfords.com>. ↗



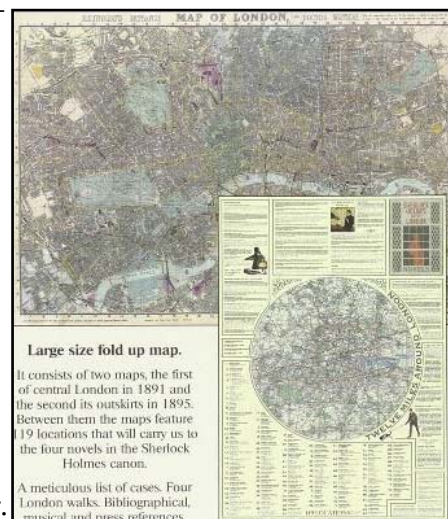
[co.uk/Sherlock-Holmes-Map-of-London\\_9788494301681](https://www.stanfords.com/uk/Sherlock-Holmes-Map-of-London_9788494301681) ♦ Their website reads: 'Product Details: A journey into the heart of Victorian London through words

and places of literature's most famous detective. On one side there is an 1891 replica map of central London with colour-coded markers showing important places in the novels: A Study in Scarlet, The Sign of Four, The Hound of the Baskervilles and The Valley of Fear.

♦ This folded map comes in an A4 presentation sleeve. The *other side* features a smaller round map of the twelve miles surrounding London. This side also contains a description of the 119 locations pointed out in these maps as well as a listing providing brief explanations of the musical, bibliographical and press references that appear in the four novels. There are also four suggested London walks."

⇒ From newer SOB Tim Kline of Plano, TX: I HAVE WRITTEN THESE SIX (6) BOOKS ON COLLECTING SHERLOCK HOLMES GAMES—playing cards, board games, chess sets and puzzles. I also lecture on these and other topics during our [local] meetings over Zoom or in person. ♦ And, yes, I do sell my works. I ask \$25 per book and I pay the shipping. Sometimes it takes time to print copies, as I do the printing at my local Staples and sometimes it takes a couple of times to get them right. Because of this on-demand printing, I do ask for payment in advance. ♦ I also have given many presentations on my games collection, if you ever need a virtual speaker. My titles:

- The Game of Sherlock Holmes: A Comprehensive Collectors Guide, Volume I (c. 2006)
- The Game of Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Variants, Volume II (c. 2010)
- The Game of Sherlock Holmes: The Latest and Greatest, Volume III (c. 2013)
- The Game of Sherlock Holmes (Escape Rooms): The Latest and Greatest and Some Golden Oldies, Volume IV (c. 2019)
- The Game of Sherlock Holmes (Magnum Opus): A Study in Game Boards, New and Vintage Games, Magical and Fantastical Games, Volume V (c. 2020) Continued on Page 5





## Introducing Our Newest Member,

**BRIAN MCAULIFFE**

*Since he lives in Ferndale, WA, we are deducing that Brian might already belong to The Dogs in the Nighttime of Anacortes! He had to miss our March 20 Zoom call because he was down in Texas helping my son's family move. So hopefully we'll see him on April 10 instead!*

*And, he's devised a most intriguing Canonical name! Says he, "My choice for an alter ego name is 'The Red League Piperoo' after my two favorite Holmes short stories, The Red Headed League (Hey, I'm Irish!) and the Five Orange Pips. Piperoo from the song 'The Gal From Kalamazoo' by Glenn Miller."*

**Welcome, Brian!!**

## Some Details about Coal Gas in "The Retired Colourman"

**By: SOB Margaret Nelson**

At our March 20 SOB Zoom, we discussed "The Adventure of the Retired Colourman" in which there is a murder by coal gas asphyxiation. I am not old enough to remember coal gas in homes so I contacted the National Gas Museum in the U.K. who suggested that I instead ask the National Gas Archive in Warrington, U.K. Doing so, I asked:

- 1) Did houses in Lewisham\* have coal gas pipes in 1899?
- 2) From where was the coal gas being processed and piped to Lewisham at that time?
- 3) If they did use coal gas there in 1899, would not every room smell like coal gas at all times anyway?

They asked one of their volunteers to answer and his reply was: "Lewisham is south of the river and I would guess in the South Metropolitan GC area. I am pretty sure that houses in the area would have had gas available in 1899. The two nearest gasworks seem to be Old Kent Road to the northwest and East Greenwich to the northeast, so the gas would almost certainly have come from there.

*As to the smell: If the gas was turned off and there were no leaks there would be no smell. If the gas was lit then there still would not be the smell of coal gas, but the products of combustion. I doubt if there were too many air tight rooms in those days; not being quite old enough to remember the rooms would have been draughty and any smell would soon disperse."*

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\* The town to which Watson was dispatched by Holmes in this investigation.

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

**Continued from Page 4**

- The Game of Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Games, Magical and Fantastical Chess Sets, and Mystical and Imaginary places, Volume VI (c. 2021)

**Ed. Note:** Local SOB Geoff Jeffery has *all* of Tim's books! Having had an opportunity to view and handle Volume VI, this is **quality** self-publishing! Tim's works are not available on Amazon! You can reach Tim at: [tkrippled73@gmail.com](mailto:tkrippled73@gmail.com)



⇒ **From all-round Sherlockian Steve Mason, BSI:**

THE LEGION OF ZOOM is thankful for all who participated in our virtual conference on February 20 and to those who gave presentations, toasts, or acted in the radio play. If you were not able to attend the Conference, you can view the presentations and radio play at our website: [www.sherlocklegionofzoom.org](http://www.sherlocklegionofzoom.org). If you have difficulty in viewing the presentations, please email me or Greg Ruby ([mason.steve8080@gmail.com](mailto:mason.steve8080@gmail.com), [greg@fourthgarrideb.com](mailto:greg@fourthgarrideb.com)).

**Ed. Note:** We welcomed guests Jane Almquist and Ian Bennett at our last meeting; if you are trying to qualify for The Legion of Zoom scion, email our Vice President Kashena (see mast-head on Page 8) about attending a future SOB Meeting!

**Continued on Page 6**

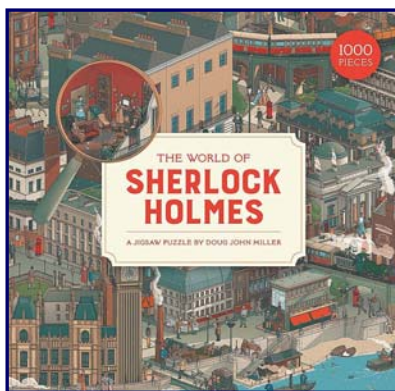
## Things to See, Buy, Do & Know...

Continued from Page 5

⇒ SOB Larry Raisch says he's not a puzzler himself, but thought our other Members might like this:

Laurence King Publishing offers "THE WORLD OF SHERLOCK HOLMES: A 1000 PIECE JIGSAW PUZZLE." Piece together the world of Sherlock Holmes in this detailed jigsaw puzzle depicting the London of his day. About this item:

- SPOT FAMOUS CHARACTERS, crime-solving clues, and historical figures as you build the puzzle
- INCLUDES A POSTER featuring fun Sherlock facts
- STURDY & ATTRACTIVE box perfect for gifting and storage.



[https://smile.amazon.com/Laurence-King-Publishing-Sherlock-Holmes/dp/1786277492/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crid=2JN1M5L0676ST&keywords=world+of+sherlock+holmes+jigsaw+puzzle&qid=1648501907&srefix=world+of+sherlock%2Caps%2C144&sr=8-2](https://smile.amazon.com/Laurence-King-Publishing-Sherlock-Holmes/dp/1786277492/ref=sr_1_2?crid=2JN1M5L0676ST&keywords=world+of+sherlock+holmes+jigsaw+puzzle&qid=1648501907&srefix=world+of+sherlock%2Caps%2C144&sr=8-2)

⇒ SOB PFL David saw this on the web in late February:

**THE MOST ABSURD FEMALE DEATHS IN LITERATURE—** Throughout history, women in literature have been killed off by vague ailments, usually as a result of their own sinful natures. Whether that means contracting "Roman fever" from spending an evening outdoors with an Italian man or being driven to self-harm by reading too many romance novels, there is clearly a common theme: Female characters are fragile and unable to take care of themselves. They certainly should not be left to their own devices, as their emotional natures will be their demise! This intro led to a slide show of more than a dozen examples of women's ailments...beginning with, of course, two slides dealing with the ever-popular "Brain Fever!" ♦ The slide captions read, "In the Sherlock Holmes story, 'The Adventure of the Crooked Man,' Nancy Barclay develops 'brain fever' after suffering a terrible shock at the death of her husband;" and "The story describes Barclay's beautiful chestnut hair being cut off to treat her 'brain fever.' Cutting off a woman's hair was a common practice to treat fevers at the time, as it was believed to reduce body temperature." ♦ As Holmes clarified for us in his narrative on the case, "No information could be got from the lady herself, who was temporarily insane from an acute attack of brain-fever." Wondering about other cases of this disorder in the Canon, I ↗

**Easter falls on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in April this year, so our April Zoom Meeting will occur—one week early—on Sunday, April 10!!**



found these:

NAVA: Percy Phelps  
COPP: Alice Rucastle  
CARD: Sarah Cushing  
MUSG: Rachel Howells  
♦ To view the entire array of slides, go to: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/lifestyle/lifestyle-buzz/the-most-absurd-female-deaths-in-literature/ss-AAUfz5b?ocid=msedgntp>

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

• **BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH** was honoured with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on 28<sup>th</sup> February. It is located at 6918 Hollywood Boulevard, across the road from the famous Chinese Theatre. You can watch a video of the unveiling ceremony at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfkjN4\\_4NiE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfkjN4_4NiE)

• If you are trying to fill in the gaps in your collection of **THE SHERLOCK HOLMES JOURNAL**, an archive of back issues is now available on the Society's website shop. <https://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/shop/archives/journal-archive/>

• Re: *MY OWN STORY: THE NARRATIVE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS' PERSECUTION* by George E. T. Edalji (\$15): This story, serialized in the 1907 *Pearson's Weekly* was not published in book form since then. (Alexis Barquin says: "I published on Amazon recently.") Edalji was convicted of cattle maiming; Conan Doyle fought for his release.

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

• The website of the **CONAN DOYLE COLLECTION** in Portsmouth is well worth exploring. Go to: <https://conan-doylecollection.org>

• "A BLACK SHERLOCK HOLMES" (1918) was the first film made by the Ebony Film Corp., and it has been preserved, although in poor condition; you can view it at [www.vimeo.com/457274050](http://www.vimeo.com/457274050), and read Nikki Igbo's Feb. 2's blog post on Twitter about this and other "race films" produced at a time when theaters were strictly segregated.

• "SHERLOCK HOLMES ON SCREENS" (an interesting website maintained by Howard Ostrom and others) offers easy access to Sherlockian video (including a commercial showing Holmes and Watson in diapers); go to: [www.sherlock-holmes-on-screens.com](http://www.sherlock-holmes-on-screens.com).

• Johanna Draper Carlson has launched a new "SHERLOCK HOLMES IN COMICS" website at [www.comicsworthreading.com/sherlock-holmes-in-comics](http://www.comicsworthreading.com/sherlock-holmes-in-comics), covering comics, graphic novels, and manga; it's colorful, with much worth exploring.

## Says Program Chair Sunny,

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...through the writings of past historians. While there's a primacy and relevance to original sources, *historiography* can add the societal and political understanding to how the views of those events alter, in fact, the actual *recording of history* alters over time. For instance, one can clearly deduce some key Victorian mores and values by analyzing the words of biographer J.G. Lockhart when he wrote about Napoleon in the 1890s:

*"He recast the art of war...he gave both permanency and breadth to the French Revolution. His reign, short as it was, was sufficient to make it impossible that the offensive privileges of caste should ever be revived in France. He broke down the barriers everywhere to custom and prejudice; and revolutionized the spirit of the continent."*

## Sherlock on Screen: The Six Napoleons

Continued from Page 2



... (And one, Lucretia, is played by Marina Sirtis prior to her *Star Trek: The Next Generation* fame.) It's also got a large part for the man who is still *my favorite* Lestrade, Colin Jeavons.

Most of the other versions of this tale take the basic premise of the six things hiding one important thing and ditch the rest, but pound-for-pound the Jeremy Brett episode is both faithful to the original and a good representation of what this

show can do when it's doing things right.



## Answers To Cook's Quiz on Page 2:

1. Lestrade.
2. The shop of Morse Hudson.
3. *Second:* Dr. Barnicot's home; *Third:* Dr. Barnicot's surgery.
4. The dreadful business of the Abernety family.
5. The depth to which the parsley had sunk into the butter upon a hot day.
6. Horace Harker.
7. Beppo.
8. Gelder & Co. of Stepney.
9. Pietro Venucci.
10. A loaded hunting crop.
11. *Five:* Josiah Brown; *Six:* Mr. Sandeford.
12. The Conk-Singleton forgery case.



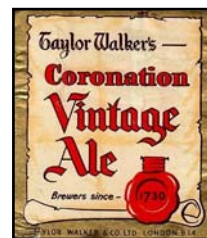
## Tracking Down the Pub Name!

Continued from Page 3

...visitors to The Plough, I remained in blissful ignorance of the fact that the late Gavin Brend had hit upon this connection at the very same time as I had. Unfortunately, he and I never met, but I knew there was nothing on the subject in his 1956 book, *My Dear Holmes*. It was a shock, therefore, one evening in 1970 following the Grand Empire Music-Hall evening, which I had just staged for members of our Society, to be presented by the Council with a copy of the rare *Volume One, Number One of The Sherlock Holmes Journal* (1952). In it I read Gavin's letter to the very first "Wigmore Street Postbag" concerning "The Blue Carbuncle," *The Plough*, and "A Sherlock Holmes Anniversary." Still, I had been in good company all along!

Some years ago the brewers, Taylor Walker, removed their signboard, with its elegant arrangement of golden stars with Alpha well in the fore, and replaced it with a chocolate-box depiction of a ploughman with his team. At one stroke they foolishly threw away the clue to the uniqueness of that establishment—the only pub in London which Holmes and Watson unquestionably patronized. (In fact, the only pub in the kingdom that they are recorded entering just to buy a drink.) It was a public relations own goal in every way. 🏴

**Ed. Note:** While we were not able to find any of Taylor Walker's original celestial logos on the web, we did find a couple of more recent photos—one of which commemorates their 1730 founding!



## Some Details about Coal Gas...

Continued from Page 5

So it sounds like there was no need to paint the woodwork to cover up the smell of coal gas in the story. Once the gas was turned off, the villain could have opened nearby windows, then opened the door and waited to let the gas disperse, or die by asphyxiation himself. Afterwards, he could have left the door open to dispel the smell or blame the smell on a gas leak.





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

## Ineffable Twaddle

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

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*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

## James' Thoughts of Spring

By: SOB James Romnes

- ◆ Here's a sort of Sherlockian poem I wrote during hikes with my poetry-loving dog:

### "Vintage London Pea Soup"

Scuffed skies grumble  
dirty with rain,  
Soiled clouds stumble  
down to the lane,  
Sprawl, crawl and stain.



That's it, the dog doesn't tolerate long poems!

Easter falls  
on the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Sunday in  
April this  
year, so our  
April Zoom  
Meeting will  
occur—  
one week  
early—on  
Sunday, April 10!!



## Last Call: Unpaid Dues are now overdue!

As most Members will recall, we renew our dues each springtime, with a call for dues being renewed each year before March 31. That's because our Club's fiscal year begins each new year on April 1.

We hope—if you haven't done so yet—that you'll get your dues renewed **today**, but certainly no later than

**April 15**, either through the PayPal option on the "Join" page of our website at <http://soundofthebaskervilles.com/join>, or by check—payable to

The Sound of the Baskervilles— and mailed to:

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

*Thank you!!*



*Our Vice President plays a bit of croquet!*