



INEFFABLE TWADDLE



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

—*The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*

Volume 41, Issue 7 • July 2022

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

Watson Picnic is August 6, 2022!!

Seahurst Park in Burien, WA is a gorgeous site, nestled in a residential area, right on the Sound! And, it couldn't be more centrally located: Burien is west of I-5 from Exit 154, which puts it midway between Seattle and Tacoma, making it handy for those on the Eastside too and not that far from Oregon or British Columbia!!

Our SOB Members, their family and friends are invited to our 24th Dr. John H. Watson Picnic—returning this year, after a 2 year absence, to the lovely Seahurst Park in Burien. We have a great picnic shelter with three long tables, a BBQ grill, and a beach just steps away.

Saturday, August 6, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
at Seahurst Park, Burien at our regular site
—the south shelter.

Though we start early in the day, this is a **potluck lunch**, so your contributions of food—salads, main dishes, side dishes, chips, snacks, sweets—and drinks will be hungrily welcomed! Parking is at a premium—**so get there early!!**

But, please, absolutely **no** alcohol, **no** smoking and **no** balloons are permitted!

Masks & social distancing will be as dictated by WA State Law!!

However, if you choose to mask-up or distance yourself, or to bring your own, non-shareable food, that's okay too!

⇒ **If you can ride-share with at least one person,** ⇨

GETTING TO SEAHURST PARK

For the Dr. John H. Watson Picnic
Saturday, August 6, 2022, 10:00 to 3:00

From I-5, take Highway 518 westbound (*Exit 154, near South Center Mall, where I-5 meets I-405*). When you get into Burien, Highway 518 turns into S. W. 148th Street. As you continue west-bound, look for and turn right onto **Ambaum Blvd. S.W.** Proceed to **S. W. 144th Street** (the 2nd light) and turn left. Go 3 short blocks to **13th Avenue S.W.** and turn right. This will take you right into the park—if you hit the water, you've gone too far!

We will be in the **south** picnic shelter!

we have a request from someone in Magnolia, who'll meet you at your designated spot!! Contact Editor Terri for info about this and other ride -share requests at:

[terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com!](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com)



Club Librarian Chris "Bear" Berwald has volunteered to fire up the Barbie, so bring your meats and grill-ables! Haugens will provide **some breakfast treats & coffee** to greet the early risers. They will also supply the plates, cups, napkins and eating utensils, but if your food requires special implements, please bring those yourselves.

The PFL will again have a **game that requires no skill at all** so anyone can win!! Imagine YOU taking home the coveted Dr. John H. Watson Trophy!

Our Fun & Easy Contest!!

You know Watson's hero and ours, Sherlock Holmes, but how well do you know about the private life of his literary agent, Sir Arthur? Here's your chance to dive into it:

Submit your 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 **himself**?* ♦ And, there's no deadline...**yet!** If your answer doesn't hit you until August or September, or even later, send it in then! The **final** deadline will be announced later!

Here's another of our entries:

From SOB Margie Deck:

• Firstly, a bit of backstory to my favorite Arthur Conan Doyle anecdote. In August 1891, while recovering from the flu, Arthur Conan Doyle made the decision to close his medical practice and live entirely from his writings. It is helpful to note here that at this point, only three Sherlock Holmes tales had appeared in print: *A Study in Scarlet*, *The Sign of the Four*, and "A Scandal in Bohemia." **STUD** and **SIGN** had not sold particularly well, and **SCAN** had only been out for one month. This decision was ...

Continued on Page 6

Zoom Meeting

★ Sunday, July 17, 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 “THOR”



Says Program Chair Sunny,

“The Problem of Thor Bridge” stands unique for a number of reasons. This titling deviation from Sherlock Holmes’ many Adventures indicates a different kind of story—one in which the usual ac-

tion of an “adventure” is traded for the interactions of the characters, namely a volatile love triangle between American Mr. Neil Gibson, his Brazilian wife, and their governess, the beautiful and aptronymic Miss Grace Dunbar. As Holmes says, “*We’ve got to understand the exact relations of these three people if we are to reach the truth.*” While Holmes does reach the truth, I am glad Arthur Conan Doyle didn’t write many in this style.

Not since “The Final Problem” has Arthur Conan Doyle contrasted Holmes with such a powerfully-drawn and masterful character as Mr. Neil Gibson, The Gold King. I do think the pithy choice “iron of nerve and leathery of conscience” is brilliant—never have so few words better summed up a self-made, self-centered millionaire-turned-politician of the American ilk. Nor since Mary Morstan, has Watson devoted so much effusive praise to this pulchritude of English womanhood as Miss Grace Dunbar. Her “*strong, clear cut yet sensitive face, that even if she should be capable of some impetuous deed, none the less there was an innate nobility of character which would make her influence always for the good.*” I can only read this as Watson believing her capable of this murder and yet excused for it? And then there’s the victim, Maria Pinto. We see her through the viewpoints of her two antagonists, and one poorly chosen eulogist, Mr. Bates. I was prepared for the usual hackneyed expressions of her “*tropical passion*” and “*ill-balanced*” nature. But I wasn’t prepared for how Miss Dunbar so thoroughly nullified Maria’s love for her husband. Says Grace: “*She loved so vividly in a physical sense, that she could hardly understand the mental, even spiritual tie which held her husband to me.*” and “*It was only my desire to influence his power for good ends which kept me under his roof.*” Yeah, sure.



Between her husband’s cruelty and Miss Dunbar’s self-serving expressions of duty, ACD lost me. In the end I was left feeling only sympathy for Maria. Except I would have figured out how to frame them both for my murder!

A Quiz on A Supposed Murder...or Not!

By: SOB Charlie Cook

- Notes on what unsuccessful case of Holmes did Watson say were in his tin dispatch-box?
- Who was known as the “Gold King?”
- Give the wife’s maiden name and where he met her!
- Name the manager of the Gold King’s estate!
- Who was charged with the murder of the Gold King’s wife?
- Complete Holmes’ statement, “My professional charges are upon a fixed scale, _____”!
- Name the local policeman who first investigated the murder!
- Describe what was found clutched in the dead woman’s hand!
- Name the barrister for the defence!
- On what did Holmes say it depended when the local policeman asked if he had a clue?
- What did Holmes tell Watson was the basis of his art?
- What did Holmes say was learned in the school-room of sorrow?

Answers may be found on Page 7



SOB Kris Hambrick’s Sherlock on Screen:

The Problem of Thor Bridge

Ah yes, the specter of the old “lost episode” rears its head again. It’s a common theme, isn’t it? One hopes that in the digital age, with film and television no longer new, and possibly “faddish” media, people take archiving more seriously.

As so often happens, however, we have Granada! This episode is in what I call the sweet spot of the Brett offerings, because it’s after Burke but before the toll of Brett’s illness had begun to really manifest on screen. He does overdo it a bit in a few moments, but his Holmes is recognizable and his eccentricities are contained mostly to an absolutely abominable filing system (Read: *throwing any papers in his way onto the floor*).

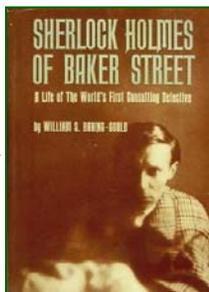
This episode includes an interesting example of the phenomenon of there being only ten actors in England in the presence of Daniel Massey, who plays Gibson. He had previously played Trelawney Hope in Peter Cushing’s “Second Stand” for the BBC, and further he was both the son of Raymond Massey (who played Holmes in 1931’s awful *The Speckled Band* but is more famous as the Boris Karloff lookalike in *Arsenic and Old Lace*) and the ex-brother-in-law of Jeremy ...

Continued on Page 7

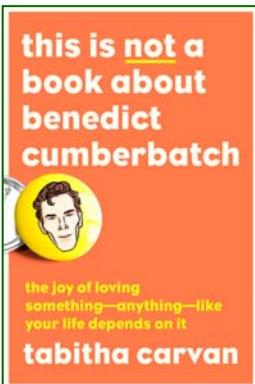
Things to See, Buy, Do & Know...

⇒ **From Ann Milam:** Saw at Smile.Amazon.com (https://smile.amazon.com/dp/B00AKZ8U84/ref=pe_827610_643839710_pe_kc_recs_em) PROMOTION OF *SHERLOCK HOLMES OF BAKER STREET* (in Kindle format for \$6.99)

by William S. Baring-Gould, described this way: "William S. Baring-Gould (1913–67) was a devoted Sherlockian whose work on Sherlockian chronology and biography culminated, in 1967, in the publication of *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes*. PRIOR TO THAT, IN 1962, HE PUBLISHED *SHERLOCK HOLMES OF BAKER STREET*, the first major biography of Sherlock Holmes, subtitled 'A Life of the World's First Consulting Detective.' The biography has been unavailable in a modern edition for many years, and it is a great pleasure, therefore, to offer to modern-day Sherlockians this eBook edition in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of its first publication." (Publisher, Ash-Tree Press; 1st edition, December 7, 2012)



Ed. Note: For our younger or newer Sherlockian fans, Baring-Gould's *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes* has been for decades the "reference bible" to all things Sherlockian, with detailed analyses of every aspect the Canon. Here's a link: [Amazon - The Annotated Sherlock Holmes Volume 1 and 2: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, William S. Baring-Gould: Books](#)



⇒ **From SOB Ann Deussenberry:** I don't recall seeing *CUMBERBATCH: THE JOY OF LOVING SOMETHING—ANYTHING—LIKE YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT* mentioned in these pages yet!

This is NOT a book about Sherlock Holmes, but has a connection nonetheless. I haven't read it, but saw it in Baker & Taylor whilst purchasing books for the Benicia, CA library. Check it out at: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/58936417-this-is-not-a-book-about-benedict-cumberbatch>

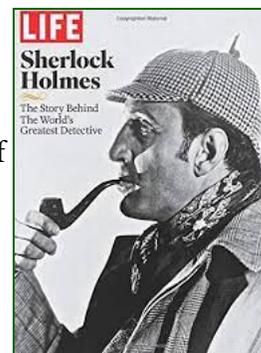
⇒ **A Note from SOB Maffie Rafferty:** Im reading about Baz Luhrmann's new "Elvis" movie that's coming out today (June 25, 2022), and one of the stars, Yola, according to ew.com, "describes Luhrmann's use of music as *AKIN TO BEING 'IN A MIND PALACE'*." So a little bit of a BBC Sherlock reference there, which would make sense since Yola is from the U.K.

⇒ **And a Note from SOB Manson Polley:** My daughter just gave me a "LIFE" MAGAZINE, dated April 15, 2022 titled "SHERLOCK HOLMES." In small print, it says, ↗

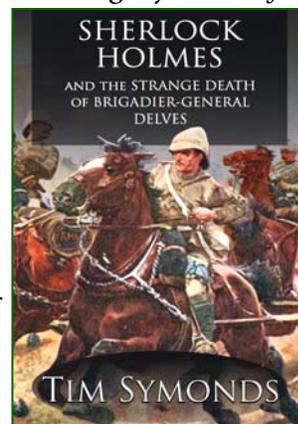
"a reissue of a special edition, copyright 2016, 2022." 96 pages, lots of photos, very glossy, heavy duty paper, yada, yada, very well done, BUT, cover shows a price of \$14.⁹⁹. Looks interesting, though!

Ed. Note: Saw prices at Amazon and eBay—possibly used issues—ranging from \$4.50 to \$10.

⇒ **We heard from author Tim Symonds in late April, with this announcement,** "This coming month MX Publishing are bringing out my latest 'Sherlock', titled *SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE STRANGE CASE OF BRIGADIER-GENERAL DELVES*. If you do reviews in *Ineffable Twaddle*, I'd be VERY HAPPY TO MAIL YOU A COMPLIMENTARY COPY for the newsletter. First advance review from America by Professor Vincent F. A. Golphin: 'A novella, loved it! This tightly crafted tale about Watson shows that war is a tool for the rich and powerful; less about glory than self-interest.' " **Ed. Note:** Any interest in receiving a complimentary copy of this new book and doing a book review for us?? Email Editor Terri please see P. 8



• **Synopsis:** It's 1898. Kismet brings about a chance reunion at a London club between Dr. Watson and Colonel "Maiwand Mike" Fenlon, former military comrades from their Northwest Frontier days and the desperate Battle of Maiwand. A week later an urgent cable seeking Sherlock Holmes's help arrives from the Bailiwick of Guernsey. A retired high-ranking British Indian Army officer who commanded the troops at Maiwand has dropped dead. Colonel Fenlon is in a holding cell awaiting trial for his murder. ♦ What role in the Brigadier-General's death was played by a phial of patent medicine developed in India to treat cholera? Why are Colonel Fenlon's forefinger and thumbprint on the neck of the phial when he swears he has never seen it before? ♦ Above all, why is Fenlon refusing to enter a plea or even to tell his Defence counsel what took place the evening the Brigadier-General dropped dead? ♦ As a fan of the world's first "consulting detective," I marvel at how easily the handful of its 500-title Holmesian catalog I sampled capture me. The stories pull me into 19th Century London's sights, sounds and sensibilities in ways other books on the subject fail. Those who craft under that banner have a talent for authenticity, which elevates the narrative and appeals to even mystery lovers that are not into Holmes. ♦ This tome does more of the same. The novelette in the first part of the book unfurls a mystery that can engage any devotee of the genre. The last third of the book is a trove of background related to Victorian and Early 20th Century England and many topics that arise in the Watson stories. I cannot say it was more interesting than the mystery, but it is guaranteed to show fans Holmes and Watson in a different light. ..."



Continued on Page 4

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

Continued from Page 3

⇒ **SOB Columnist Kris Hambrick reports:** My schedule is very limited at the moment, so my suggested “WATCH-ALONG MOVIE CLUB” idea is in limbo. **Ed. Note:** That’s because Kris is busy producing and acting in “Return of the Jedi in the Park”, a (fairly) annual event in Seattle held on Saturdays & Sundays at 6 p.m. throughout August 2022!



⇒ **Editor Terri notes:**

- **SOBs BETH GALLEGO AND RICH KRISCIUNAS** both have items published in the Beacon Society’s newest “*Sher-lock’s Spotlight*” (Vol. 3, No. 2, Spring 2022). **BETH** with her periodic column, “Entertainment Resources for Younger Sherlockians”, focusing on comics and graphic novels; **RICH** with his commentary on **BLUE** titled, “Commissionaires, Carbuncles, Courts, and Crops.” ♦ To subscribe to the quarterly gazette designed for kids, go to: www.beaconsociety.com.

- **IF YOU’RE KEEPING UP WITH NEWS OF ROBERT DOWNEY, JR.’S TV SERIES**, check these out: [HBO Max’s Sherlock Holmes Series: What We Hope to See \(movieweb.com\)](https://www.hbo.com/shows/sherlock) and [HBO Max’s Sherlock Holmes: Why We Can’t Wait for the Spinoff Series \(movieweb.com\)](https://www.hbo.com/shows/sherlock-holmes)

⇒ **From our friend Steve Mason, BSI:** THE BEACON SOCIETY is thrilled to announce the launch of their new **LIBRARY DISPLAY PROJECT!** The Society provides the essentials for creating a Sherlock-Holmes-themed display in a public or school library display case. Local scions may request a free display “box” (one per scion) and then personalize their display with their own items, books, t-shirts, memorabilia, etc. Find out more about this project at www.beaconsociety.com/library-display-project.html.

⇒ **From Peter Blau’s Scuttlebutt from the Spermacti Press:** The ACD Society has launched a new project: an **ANNOTATED VERSION OF THE MANUSCRIPT OF “THE TERROR OF BLUE JOHN GAP”**; it’s an on-going project, **edited by Margie Deck and Nancy Holder**, with commentary by Paul Chapman, Derek Belanger, Mattias Böst-rom, Charles Prepolec, and Bob Coghill, with more to come www.acdsociety.com/bjga/bjga.html. **See more about this project on Page 5 of this issue!** ⇒ ⇒

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 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 ♦ 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!

Your talk here...



SOBs Pursue the 2022 Annual John H. Watson Canonical Treasure Hunt

This year’s JWS Treasure Hunt deviser is **SOB Rich Krisciunas**. Previous deviser **SOB Margie Deck** says she got a peek at his draft of the 2022 Treasure Hunt quiz and says it should be great fun!

So Margie has fielded a group of other SOBs—some who’ve successfully won previous Treasure Hunt quizzes in the “Team” category—to take up this annual challenge, which will run throughout the month of August. Team members include SOBs (*in alpha order*) Cameron Brandon, Program Chair Sunny Even, Nancy Holder, BSI, Dawn Jaekel, and Naching Kassa.

Our 2019 team (right) earned “Honors” in that Hunt!



Another New Effort by our SOB Duo!

The Terror

OF BLUE JOHN GAP • by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle



edited by
Margie Deck & Nancy Holder

The Terror of Blue John Gap Project is an on-going collaborative annotation of the original manuscript celebrating Arthur Conan Doyle's timeless masterpiece of the supernatural.

Last year the Arthur Conan Doyle Society announced an agreement with Dartmouth College's Rauner Special Collections Library to publish the autograph manuscript of Arthur Conan Doyle's short story "The Terror of Blue John Gap," a tale that first appeared in *The Strand Magazine* in September 1910. The manuscript of this science fiction/horror story (commentators disagree which genre fits it best) has not been widely reproduced or circulated before.

The ACD society decided to publish the pages of the manuscript with commentary one page at a time in the society newsletter with supplemental commentary posted to a website for the project. SOBs Margie Deck and Nancy Holder, BSI, were invited onto the project as the co-editors and they readily agreed. They are busy inviting Sherlockians, popular culture scholars, and writers of many sorts to comment on many aspects of the story and Doyle's world.

The first pages with commentary are now posted at <http://acdsociety.com/bjg/a/bjga.html>. The full text of the story with illustrations can be found at www.arthur-conan-doyle.com.

Another Doctor Watson Quiz

By: SOB Charlie Cook

Here's another Baker's dozen of the many actors who have played Sherlock's Boswell—including a bonus! **Can you name the Holmes actor teamed with these Watsons?** (These may be tougher than last month's quiz!)

1. Burt Blackwell
2. Robert Dorning
3. Robert Duvall
4. Edward Fox
5. Ronald Fraser
6. **James Mason**
7. Patrick Monckton
8. Dudley Moore
9. André Morell
10. Reginald Owen
11. Terrence Rigby
12. William Rushton
13. Richard Woods



And, the Bonus: 3 Female Watsons

1. **Margaret Colin**
2. Lucy Liu
3. Jenny O'Hara

Answers are shown at right ⇨ ⇨ ⇨

Answers to Holmes Actors:

1. Leonard Nimoy
2. Jeremy Young
3. Nicol Williamson
4. Nobody (Watson without Holmes)
5. Hugh Fraser
6. Christopher Plummer
7. Brian Bedford
8. Peter Cook
9. Peter Cushing
10. Clive Brook
11. Tom Baker
12. John Cleese
13. Frank Langella

Answers to Bonus Holmes Actors

1. Michael Pennington
2. Johnny Lee Miller
3. Larry Hagman

Our Fun & Easy Contest!!

Continued from Page 1

...based on the accumulative efforts of all his writing. At this point, he had published more than 45 writings, including at least six novels. After years of eking out a living (to the point that at one time he was budgeting exactly how many eggs he could have for breakfast and how giving up one a day would affect his budget), his works were earning him enough to take care of his growing family.

Of course, in the months to follow, the stories subsequent to SCAN would change everything for him in ways he never imagined, as he pondered in his sick bed that day. By October, he had engaged an agent, Watt, to handle his many publishing interests, and there were many requests made of him. Now, as to my favorite part of this, he wrote to his mother on October 14, 1891 about some of those requests:

"Another note from Watt to say that some big journal wants an immediate serial from me. I refused. Also one today to ask me to write a book for the wit & humour series. I again refused. Ward Lock & Co. wrote to ask me to write a preface for A Study in Scarlet. I refused. Then they wrote for leave to use a subtitle with the name of Sherlock Holmes. I refused again. So you see what a cantankerous son you have."

I think he never quite forgave Ward Lock & Co. for that "cheap fiction" remark about STUD nor for their refusal to pay him royalties at the time they purchased the rights to the book in 1886. He only ever earned the original £25 they paid him for the rights. I certainly do not blame him for not accommodating the company at all in 1891.

Editor's Note: The names of those who enter our "Fun & Easy Contest" 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 submit. Just email your answers/entries to: terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com.



"The 100 Best, Worst, and Strangest Sherlock Holmes Portrayals of All-Time, Ranked" by Olivia Rutigliano

Contributed by SOB VP Kashena Konecki

Source: https://getpocket.com/explore/item/the-100-best-worst-and-strangest-sherlock-holmes-portrayals-of-all-time-ranked?utm_source=pocket-newtab

Once you eliminate the least compelling Sherlock Holmes performances, whatever remains, no matter how improbable, must be the best.

We're ranking Sherlock Holmes performances. One hundred of them. Not Sherlock Holmes adaptations, but the representations within them of Holmes himself. Now, you might think that you know the best Sherlock Holmes, but as the man himself has said, "It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has data." I have just watched one hundred different portrayals of Holmes. I have the data. And now it's time to theorize. Even, to deduce.

There are so many excellent and varied takes on Sherlock Holmes. (R)anking them was very hard to do, and while I took a lot of pleasure in researching and writing this piece, I took no pleasure in making any of the decisions. This was the hardest list I have ever had to put together. Hardly, if you'll pardon the phrase, elementary.

Here are the rules:

What are the criteria we're using to rank these portrayals? Fidelity to the source text? Creativeness of the interpretations? Resemblance to Sidney Paget's illustrations? Quality of acting? Kind of. Simply put, portrayals are ranked in their ability to present a Holmes who makes sense as a derivation of the original character while exploring, interrogating, and expanding the character's qualities in a thoughtful and meaningful way. And of course, yes, the quality of the performance itself matters.

There have been so many wonderful theatrical portrayals of our Man from Baker Street, but unfortunately, we can include almost none of them! We can only rank Sherlocks that everyone has access to, so only ones whose representations are on video of some kind, which sadly excludes performances by Alan Rickman, Alan Tudyk, and several other Alans, as well as men with other first names.

Excluded from this ranking, also, are radio portrayals of Holmes, which also sadly excludes performances by Orson Welles, John Gielgud, and Nigel Bruce.

Please note that we're ranking Sherlock Holmes portrayals (characters who are literally supposed to be Holmes), not portrayals of characters who are based on or inspired by Holmes. **Gregory House is not on this list. Repeat. Gregory House is not on this list.** Neither is Owen Wilson's "Sherlock Holmes" in *Shanghai Knights*. And neither is Douglas Fairbanks's spoofy Sherlock character "Coke Ennyday."

Moving right along! If a character does *not* have the same name as Holmes (such as Basil of Baker Street) it is because virtually everything else about him is the exact same. This might seem like splitting hairs (or fur, in Basil's case) but it is important. Characters named after Sherlock, but not literally adapting Holmes, are not on this list. So this excludes, Buster Keaton's "Sherlock Jr." I am, however, including performances of characters who falsely believe ...

Continued on Page 7

Sherlock on Screen: The Problem of Thor Bridge

...Brett himself—from when Brett and Anna Massey had been married years before. Small world, I guess.



In terms of adaptation, Granada does make an effort here at including the emotional lives of women in the story in a way Doyle frequently avoids—to mixed effect.



Opening, not with Baker Street but with the “victim” works wonderfully here, as we are concisely shown the depression and alienation of the wife, Maria Gibson. This puts our sympathies with her straightaway, and the way the script heightens Neil Gibson's aggressive tendencies adds to that. Unfortunately, this backfires when we are shown an ending that implies that Gibson may indeed be able to go on with the governess, Miss Dunbar, who does not seem to have any passion for him. The shot of him with his arm around her in a carriage does not have the intended effect when the episode has been hammering home for forty-five minutes that he's an abusive and entitled person. It implies that Maria's framing of Miss Dunbar should erase any sympathy we have for her, and by inference I suppose we are meant to conclude that Gibson shouldn't be accountable for marrying her in error and then sexually harassing his employee.



Continued from Page 2

Answers To Cook's Quiz on Page 2:

1. The disappearance of both James Phillimore and the cutter Alicia and the madness of Isadora Persano, the journalist and duelist.
2. J. Neil Gibson,
3. Maria Pinto; Manaos, Brazil.
4. Marlow Bates.
5. Grace Dunbar.
6. “I do not vary them, save when I remit them altogether.”
7. Sergeant Coventry.
8. A note which said, “I will be at Thor Bridge at nine o'clock.”
9. Mr. Joyce Cummings.
10. The behaviour of Watson's revolver.
11. A mixture of imagination and reality.
12. Earthly lessons.

The 100 Best, Worst, and... Continued from Page 6

...themselves of characters who falsely believe themselves to be Holmes. So, yes, I am including those episodes of *Star Trek* about how Data thinks he's Sherlock Holmes.

A final note: The following (partial list of 25) actors who played Holmes on film and/or TV, but (whose) versions are not accessible (as they are in private/special collections in libraries I'm not able to visit, or international versions unavailable in the U.S., or, tragically, have been lost). But I wanted to nod to them somehow, anyway. So, here is (a partial) list of (the 25) we had to cut out, not ranked. Deerstalkers off to you, gentlemen.

- Gilbert M. Anderson, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes; or, Held for Ransom* (1905)
- Ferdinand Bonn, *Sherlock Holmes* (1906) etc.
- Viggo Larsen, *Sherlock Holmes* etc. (1908)
- Mack Sennett, *The \$500 Reward* (1911), etc.
- Harry Benham, *The Sign of the Four* (1913)
- James Braginton, *A Study in Scarlet*, (1914)
- Francis Ford, *A Study in Scarlet* (1914)
- Harry Arthur Saintsbury, *The Valley of Fear* (1916)

Ed. Note: Navigate over to https://getpocket.com/explore/item/the-100-best-worst-and-strangest-sherlock-holmes-portrayals-of-all-time-ranked?utm_source=pocket-newtab to view the entire list of 100 “Best, Worst and Strangest” and the list of 25 that “are not accessible.” In the meantime, here's a small sampling from the “100”:

#100. Henry Cavill, *Enola Holmes* (2020) My apologies to the Man of Steel, but he's at the very bottom of our list. Henry Cavill's Holmes, a distant older brother to the plucky teen age protagonist Enola 

(Millie Bobby Brown), is brawny, stony, stiff, and altogether dull.

#86. Charlton Heston, *The Crucifer of Blood* (1991) You know who's a weird Sherlock Holmes? Charlton Heston. Maybe it's just hard for me, personally, to reconcile the late NRA president with the most rational character in literary history, but Heston's Holmes is squinty and gravely and his officious English accent makes him sound like he thinks he's playing a Roman senator or a British general supervising a bridge construction in Colonial India in a Cecil B. DeMille movie, and I'm not having it.

Continuing to whet your appetite toward reaching #1, the author has comments on everybody:

#52. Tom Baker, *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (1982)

#43. John Cleese, “Elementary, my Dear Watson,” *Comedy Playhouse* (1973)

#41. Stewart Granger, *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (1972)

#39. Leonard Nimoy, *The Interior Motive* (1976)

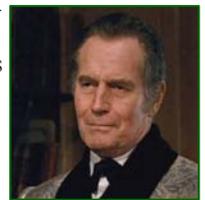
#31. Raymond Massey, *The Speckled Band*, (1931)

#21. Peter O' Toole, *Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Curse* (1983)

#18. Alan Napier, “The Adventure of the Speckled Band,” *Your Show Time* (1949)

#17. Nicholas Rowe, *Young Sherlock Holmes* (1985)

#15. Christopher Lee, *Sherlock Holmes and the Deadly Necklace* (1962)





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 3rd Sunday of each month. Location of the meetings may vary.

Regularly scheduled additional events throughout the year include: "The Masters' Celebration" honoring the meeting of Holmes and Watson (March), "The Annual Wreath Throw" commemorating Holmes' loss at Reichenbach Falls (May), "The Dr. John H. Watson Picnic" (July), and "The Will Crakes Memorial Jollification" (December). Other activities—book crawls, teas, plays and gaming events—are as announced.

To join, or to renew your membership, send your check for dues—\$25 for individuals, \$35 for families (U.S. funds only)—payable to The Sound of the Baskervilles—to:
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When they compliment your hair!



Contributed by SOB Bill Seil;
source, June 15, 2022 Seattle Times

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A quarter of our Members choose to receive their monthly newsletter by snail-mail, **and you can too!**

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And, thank you!

