



# INEFFABLE TWADDLE



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

*—The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*

Volume 41, Issue 9 • September 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

## Join The SOB's Zoom Meeting

★ **Sunday, September 18, 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 "3GAR"**

**The Paragraphs that Launched  
a Thousand 'Ships**

### Says Program Chair Sunny,


**"The Adventure of the Three Garridebs"** is not remarkable in its plot, as it relies on a ruse Conan Doyle has used before. Odd behaviors on the part of a stranger perk the curiosity of honest law-abiding Englishmen leading to Holmes unmasking the get-rich scheme behind them. No, what makes "Three Garridebs" so noteworthy to the Canon are the events Watson hints at in the beginning. *"It may have been a comedy, or it may have been a tragedy. It cost one man his reason, it cost me a blood-letting, and it cost yet another man the penalties of the law."*



"A printing press—a counterfeiter's outfit," said Holmes

While "a blood-letting" sounds serious enough, the fact that Watson recalls it with equanimity, and even humor (a comedy in some sense), tells us it can't be that bad. So it's curious what Watson finds humorous as the danger unfolds and the villain is confronted. "...He

whisked out a revolver from his breast and had fired two shots. I felt a sudden hot sear as if a red-hot iron had been pressed to my thigh." There's more of course and I'll let you find the relevant paragraphs yourself because they deserve to be read in context. Even after all these years, I can share all over again Holmes' joy and the relief as he finds Watson (mostly) unharmed, and experience Watson's "moment of revelation."

Love comes into our lives in many forms, and when it happens the platonic type is no less amazing than the 

romantic. Consider the life-long impact friendships can have, the absence of obligatory ties, the relief and renewing power of unconditional support and loyalty. That's why I say "a thousand 'ships" because while it may be "Canon," there is no one "right" way to label Holmes and Watson's love for one another.

## Lay Your Hand on a Garrideb, There's Money in It!

### A Quiz by: SOB Charlie Cook

1. Watson said that this adventure began when?
2. What was it about Holmes that made the date so easy to remember?
3. Which Garrideb sent a message to Holmes seeking his assistance?
4. Which Garrideb actually came to 221B?
5. How did Alexander Hamilton Garrideb make his money?
6. How much money was each Garrideb guaranteed in the will of Alexander Garrideb?
7. Who did Holmes claim was Mayor of Topeka, Kansas in 1890?
8. Which Garrideb ran a newspaper ad for agricultural machinery?
9. Whom did Holmes identify as "Killer" Evans?
10. What other two aliases did "Killer" use?
11. Who was the man "Killer" shot in the Waterloo Road in 1895?
12. What was found below the ground floor of Holmes's client's house?

*Answers may be found on Page 7*

## SOB Kris Hambrick's *Sherlock on Screen:* **The Adventure of the Three Garridebs**

The Three Garridebs might have the dual distinction of being both the first televised Sherlock Holmes story and the worst. Spanning almost sixty years, I'm afraid this column is full of disappointments.

The first sad fact, chronologically....*Continued on Page 7*

## The SOBs' 24th Dr. John H. Watson Picnic!

We are happy to report that our 24<sup>th</sup> Dr. John H. Watson Picnic on August 6 was very cool indeed! Folks were already arriving by 9:30 a.m. and we gave up our shelter after 3 p.m. Lots of good food and sunshine and barbequed meat galore! **Club Librarian "Bear" Berwald** was a master at grilling, and Member **Bryan Romnes**—now all grown-up—offered grilled shrimp skewers with lemon garlic butter!

**Members Maffie & Dave Rafferty** entertained us throughout lunch with a great selection of songs, including a reprise of "Comfortably Numb" by Pink Floyd first performed for us in October 2021, that appeared in our 2022 *Beaten's Christmas Annual*.

**Then it was game time:** Member **Cameron Brandon** threw us some curves with his use of a couple of odd tossing tools—golf balls and carpet circles—because he couldn't locate his bean bags this year. He introduced the game this way: "In the story of 'The Adventure of the Devil's Foot,' Holmes and Watson went to Cornwall, in south-west England, and visited the 'hamlet of Tredannick Wollas, where the cottages of a couple of hundred inhabitants clustered round an ancient, moss-grown church.' Your object is to enter the hamlet and, more importantly, enter the remains of the church, located in the center. Each ball or disc that lands amongst the cottages earns you ONE point, and each ball or disc that lands in the church earns you FIVE points. After many "heats," **Dave Rafferty** won first prize, taking home the Watson Trophy. Runners up included **Laurie Berwald**, who took home a framed image of Holmes (donated by Vice President Kashena Konecki) built using the text from "The Engineer's Thumb;" and **Members Lauren Messenger** and **Norman Foster**, each of whom took home a jar of bubbles and some Musgrave brand pencils donated by **SOB Allen Nelson**. **Until next year...may all your days be sunny ones!**



*Clockwise from right: Larry and Ginie, Margie, Norman and Erin, Dave & Maffie perform, Cameron and James, Stephen and BBQ Chef "Bear"*



*Left: VP Kashena with Laurie,*

*Right: Kashena with Alexander.*



Continued on Page 3



## ...Dr. John H. Watson Picnic!

Winner Lauren,

PFL David with  
winner Norman,



*Trophy-winner  
Dave!*

*And, the mustard-award for  
gamesmanship to Cam!*



● This is much about Agatha Christie but the author also does a nice comparison of detectives' traits. Search the *New Yorker Magazine* (<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine>) for the title "QUEEN OF CRIME: HOW AGATHA CHRISTIE CREATED THE MODERN MURDER MYSTERY" (by Joan Acocella, August 9, 2010).

⇒ **Per SOB Dawn Jaekel:** Further to the conversation that occurred at our Watson Picnic, the Sherlockian fellow who has published a book of Sherlock songs is **JIM BALLINGER**. His book, *SHERLOCK HOLMES IN SONG*—sixty songs, including the musical notation—is available on Amazon for only \$7.05, hardcover; \$6.56, paperback; and \$6.23 for the kindle version. Jim has recorded his songs and posted on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHevjXVMSY-uviZ55e8mQqA/featured>. His YouTube site includes even more songs, some not in the book.

⇒ **From SOB Larry Raisch:** I'm not sure if this essay is a favorite, but it was kind of interesting—"WHEN ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE SHOWED UP AT HIS OWN MEMORIAL SERVICE. (MAYBE.)," by Emily Temple, July 13, 2022. The author notes an event that occurred six days *after* Conan Doyle's death. Source: *The Hub*. [When Arthur Conan Doyle showed up at his own memorial service. \(Maybe.\)](https://lithub.com/when-arthur-conan-doyle-showed-up-at-his-own-memorial-service-maybe/) < Literary Hub ([lithub.com](https://lithub.com))

⇒ **SOB Margaret Nelson tells us:** In regard to our discussion of SHOS at the August Meeting. Dr. Watson would like you to see **A PICTURE OF THE 1903 GRAND NATIONAL FROM THE INTERNET**. You can imagine it looked similar to when Sir Robert Norberton got second place in the race. This picture is located on the racetrack at Beecher's Brook which is a difficult jump and notorious for riders' and horses' falls in the annual race. Those rich guys used to go hunting all the time, throwing themselves over jumps

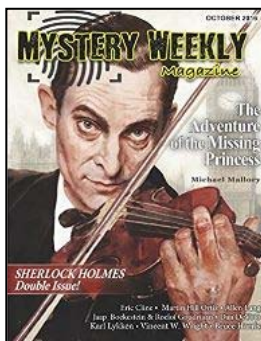


and countryside in steeplechases (a cross-country run). Even today the younger rich folks ride in eventing and hunting. It takes cash to keep the expensive horse

and all the tack, gear, training, etc. Things have not changed.

*Continued on Page 4*

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



⇒ **From SOB Ann Milam:**

● I'm not into pastiches but some members might be interested in this, especially at \$2.99 for Kindle and \$4.99 for paperback—**MYSTERY WEEKLY MAGAZINE:**

OCTOBER 2016: **SHERLOCK HOLMES DOUBLE ISSUE**. [https://smileamazon.com/gp/product/1519022735?ref=em\\_1p\\_3\\_ti&ref\\_=pe\\_28028130\\_652973580](https://smileamazon.com/gp/product/1519022735?ref=em_1p_3_ti&ref_=pe_28028130_652973580) ➦

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

Continued from Page 3

⇒ From our good friend Steve Mason, BSI: While I have seen a couple of versions of this type of "SHERLOCKIAN PERIODIC TABLE" floating around the internet, and on a few Sherlockians' walls, I hope this may be the most comprehensive one of them . . . created for our Dallas scion. If you want to print it out, it will fit nicely on a piece of 11 x 17 paper . . . Hope you enjoy! **Ed. Note:** A .pdf version of Steve's originally-sized file will be attached to this issue of *Twaddle* when it is distributed by email.

⇒ SOB Margaret Nelson asks for help: Allen's cousin & spouse will be spending several weeks at a hotel on Northumberland Street, near the Sherlock Holmes pub in September. She is taking along a new book *ON THE TRAIL OF SHERLOCK HOLMES* by Stephen Browning. It has 7 walking tours in London relating to Sherlock stories. I listened to a portion of an interview with the author on "I hear of you everywhere" and he sounded rational, so I have some hope for this book but have never heard of or seen it before Ellen mentioned it. Has anyone in the Club seen and/or read this book and what do you think? **Ed. Note:** Members' book reviews are always welcome!

⇒ An Update from SOB Margie Deck: This year's "ANNUAL JOHN H WATSON SOCIETY CANONICAL TREASURE HUNT" is not over until Aug 31 at midnight. We won't have final results until sometime in September. Our SOB team submitted its entry on August 12. We have been told that we did not get 100% but we scored close to it. We will have to wait to see how we do against the other competitors. ♦ SOB Team Members: Cameron,

## "Speakers Please!" says PFL David!

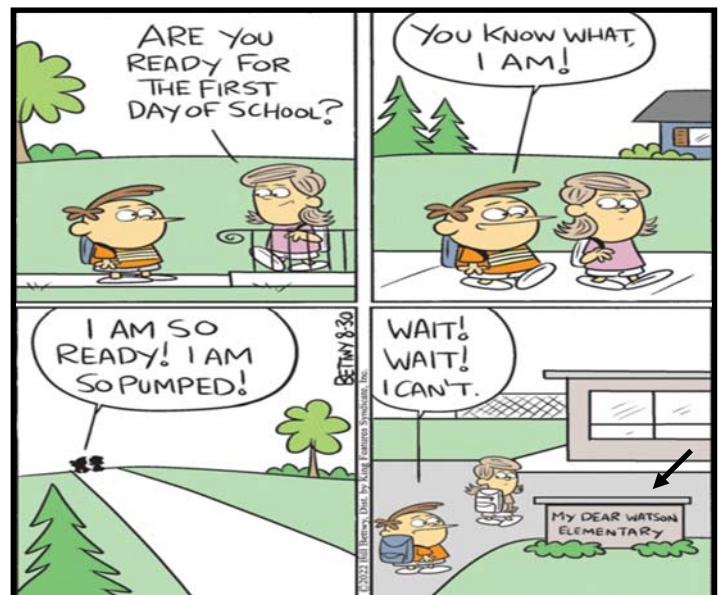


We have been fortunate this year in having presentations made by several members earlier this year, and I would like to see this trend continue. ♦ Is there something you think your fellow SOBs would be interested in learning? It could be

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](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!

Nancy, Naching, Sunny, and me. Dawn dropped out and said she did not want to be listed as a team member although the team was perfectly willing to keep her name on. We had to respect her wishes. All I've got for now.

⇒ A Timely Cartoon sent by SOB Bill Seil:



Continued on Page 6





## Our Fun & Easy Contest is Coming to an End!!

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?

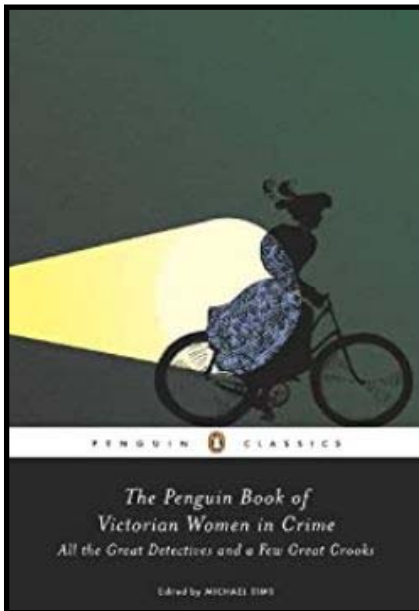
Submit your response to this question no later than **Sunday, September 18, 2022** and it will appear in a future issue of this newsletter!!

**The question:** *What is your favorite real-life story, event or nugget of info about Arthur Conan Doyle himself?*

**Editor's Note:** The names of those who enter our "Fun & Easy Contest" will be put in a hat and in late September, one or more of them will be drawn for nifty prizes!! ♦ You choose the length of your answer and how many entries you submit. Just email your answers/entries to: [terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com).

## Four Enjoyable Books of Fictional Women Detectives

**By: SOB Margaret Nelson**



"The Penguin Book of Victorian Women in Crime" (PBVWC) subtitled: *Forgotten Cops and Private Eyes from the Time of Sherlock Holmes*, by Michael Sims started me on this trek. The book is a great idea—a volume of eleven short stories or first chapters of books involving women detectives, published from the time of Queen Victoria to the First World War. This provides enough to get a taste of writer and their detective, and to look for the rest of the book if you are interested. I was, I did and I found some delightful women detectives.

Keep in mind that the first woman was not employed by the Metropolitan Police until 1883, and they seemed to be restricted to jail matrons charged with searching female prisoners brought in and detained. Finally, in 1918 the first woman was hired to be a police officer. Fiction anticipated this; the first story using female detectives was published in the early 1860s.

Both women and men wrote about these ladies. Sims wrote, "*The creation of a female detective instantly provided a number of narrative possibilities unavailable to male heroes.*" Indeed!

The (PBVWC) selections included several clever stories and I recommend you read them all but want to call your attention to American author Anna Katharine Green. She was such a clever and well known detective fiction author, that Arthur Conan Doyle asked to meet her during his 1894 American lecture tour! Of course, her first detective novel, "The Leavenworth Case" (1878) preceded Sherlock Holmes by nine years. This was a wildly popular novel used as required reading at the Yale Law School to note how characters could misconstrue what they heard. Green's detectives also use devices like disguises, handwriting comparison and her female detective draws and uses sketches of the scene of the crime. All useful techniques before and since.

Another of her books is "That Affair Next Door" (1897). Note the differences in the way her woman detective, Miss Amelia Butterworth and the official New York City detective, Ebenezer Gryce, investigate and come to conclusions. I loved it! Both are narrated by the main character, a device Doyle later used too.

A more modern book is the "Bangalore Detectives Club" by Haring Nagendra (2022). This is about an educated Indian woman in an arranged marriage in the India of the 1920s. She also is a fan of Sherlock Holmes and often reflects on what or how he would approach a problem. Quite a pleasant book to read!

The Penguin Book of Victorian Women in Crime: *Forgotten Cops and Private Eyes from the Time of Sherlock Holmes*, by Michael Sims. [The Penguin book of Victorian women in crime : forgotten cops and private eyes from the time of Sherlock Holmes in SearchWorks catalog \(stanford.edu\)](#)

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

Continued from Page 4

⇒ **SOB Lauran Stevens sent this along:** Audio Editions is offering a 35% discount on a couple of items of note:

★ **SHERLOCK HOLMES: GODS OF WAR** BY JAMES LOVEGROVE IN CD AND MP3 FORMATS. It's due out on September 27 and described this way: "*A body is discovered just a mile from Sherlock Holmes's retirement cottage. Holmes and Watson investigate and uncover a conspiracy with shocking ramifications.*" **Sale price** for 7 CDs (ZEg5dy) is \$24.<sup>02</sup>; and for 1 MP3 CD (ZMg5dy) is \$20.<sup>77</sup>.

★ **SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE THINKING ENGINE** BY JAMES LOVEGROVE IN CD AND MP3 FORMATS. It's due out on October 25 and described this way: "*Holmes accepts a challenge from an Oxford Professor who claims to have built a machine that can outthink man, and must solve a series of crimes before it does.*" **Sale price** for 8 CDs (ZEg5dz) is \$27.<sup>27</sup>; and for 1 MP3 CD (ZMg5dz) is \$20.<sup>77</sup>. Go to: [www.AudioEditions.com](http://www.AudioEditions.com) or call 1-800-231-4261 for both of these items.

⇒ **From PFL David:**

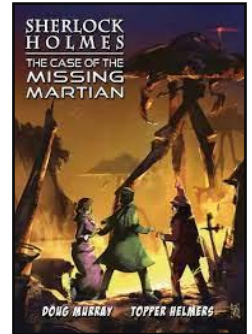
● **"THE TWISTED LIFE OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, THE MAN BEHIND SHERLOCK HOLMES!"** Says this post's author, "Doyle created one of the most famous characters of all time: The brilliant, cantankerous detective Sherlock Holmes. But who was the mastermind behind literature's greatest sleuth? From his real-life crime-solving to his strange beliefs in the supernatural, Doyle is even more fascinating than his celebrated detective." Follow this link: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/tv/news/the-twisted-life-of-sir-arthur-conan-doyle-the-man-behind-sherlock-holmes/ar-AA11jTGN?cvid=908308ef91bd4aa98917c9733f4fa7be> to read 50 paragraphs of factoids about ACD from "Factinate."

● **"HOW GUY RITCHIE BROUGHT SHERLOCK HOLMES CINEMATIC JUSTICE"** by Mayoohan Sevrerlz is an interesting essay: His thoughts, "Since the rights for the character lie freely in the public domain, there have been numerous versions of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic detective. Arguably, one of the most prominent of these was Hollywood's relatively recent attempt at making Sherlock Holmes a blockbuster franchise in 2009 and 2011. With two hits and a third film on the way, let's explore how Guy Ritchie is one of the few to do Sher-

lock Holmes justice on the big screen...But the simple heart of the matter is that, where most directors make films starring Sherlock Holmes, Guy Ritchie made *Sherlock Holmes* films. This came directly as a result of trying to make Sherlock Holmes fit the mold of a more blockbuster-oriented franchise."

Read the entire essay at: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/entertainment/news/how-guy-ritchie-brought-sherlock-holmes-cinematic-justice/ar-AAZDaYE?cvid=6547181c0cde49eda5c36da949c7c984>

● **SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE CASE OF THE MISSING MARTIAN** by Doug Murray (pb, \$14.99) came out in July this year. Here's the plot: Sherlock Holmes is called out of retirement to London in 1908 to solve a most baffling mystery: The British Museum is missing a perfect specimen of a Martian from the failed invasion of 1899. Did it walk away of its own accord or did someone steal it and if so, why? Holmes ponders the facts and remembers his part in the war effort alongside Professor Challenger during the War of the Worlds invasion which were chronicled in H.G. Wells' classic novel. Meanwhile, Doctor Watson has problems of his own when his wife, Jacqueline, steals a scalpel from his surgical tool kit and returns to her old stomping grounds of Whitechapel, the London area of the infamous unsolved murders of Jack The Ripper!



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

● Paul Thomas Miller, author of *A DEMI-DECADE OF THE SHINGLE OF SOUTHSEA – THE WORLD'S GREATEST SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY* (pbk, \$12.<sup>99</sup>) says, "Have you got too much money? Do you hate reading well written things? I can help! Now available on Amazon." The man who designed a set of fortune-telling cards inspired by the ghost of Silver Blaze is at it again. If you are in need of a giggle, here's a whopping collection of Paul's unique writings. Chapters include "The Reigate Winos," "Ode to the Pig from Black Peter," "The Sherlockian Ten Commandments," "Was Conan Doyle a Star Wars Fan?" and "The Cheeseboard of Sherlock Holmes." *Need I say more?*

● In 2019, David Stuart Davies's two-man play "Sherlock Holmes—the Final Reckoning" went down well at the Edinburgh Fringe. Since then, it seems to have disappeared...until now...

Continued on Page 7



## Sherlock on Screen: Three Garridebs

Continued from Page 1

...anyway, is that we do not have a recording of the initial trial broadcast of "The Three Garridebs" in what was essentially an experiment for NBC's new television division in 1937. At the time, television was relayed live, and there was not yet a system for recording those broadcasts, and thus all we have are a few still photos of a television screen and a review. Not only is this the first transmission of a

Sherlock Holmes story on television, it's also considered the first television pilot and was a massive step towards providing quality dramatic entertainment previously only available via visiting a theater.

Unfortunately, the 1994 version produced by Granada does not have so distinguished a legacy, though it is readily available. Shot during the last year of Jeremy Brett's life, the schedule happened to place filming during a severe downturn in Brett's mental and physical health, and he was virtually unavailable for the entirety of production. Contractually obliged to go ahead, the showrunners rewrote the script to feature Mycroft, as played by Charles Gray. For some reason, as with many later of the Granada shows, the plot has been severely adulterated and meshed unsatisfyingly with "The Mazarin Stone." Despite access to TWO plots, the turgid direction is unable to drum up any dramatic tension despite a somewhat manic use of reflections and refractions and weird visions of Holmes watching over the proceedings in a clumsy bookend to remind us this is a Sherlock Holmes show. Most disappointing of all, we do not get what is perhaps one of the most emotional moments in all of Canon, where Holmes expresses his true regard for Watson when the other man is gravely injured.


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

Continued from Page 6

...Michael Daviot, who played Holmes, has posted a complete video recording on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f064ZW-TMJY>

⇒ A few squibs from *Sherlock Holmes Magazine* for Summer 2022 (Issue No. 9) provided by SOB Geoff Jeffery:

- A new official game based on the BBC series *Sherlock* has been announced. "SHERLOCK: CASE CONNECTION" is a board game that takes inspiration from the series starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman. Designed by Radoslaw Ignatow and published by Polish games developer Lucky Duck Games in conjunction with the BBC and Hartwood films, the game has players attempting to outwit Sherlock's smartest enemies for discovering clues and constructing correct theories. It's due for release shortly, with the title launching at a retail price of £20/\$28.

- A new website has launched that aims to catalogue appearances of Sherlock Holmes in comic books, graphic novels and manga. "SHERLOCK HOLMES IN COMICS" is an ongoing project by Sherlockian 

Comics expert and *Sherlock Holmes Magazine* contributor Johanna Draper Carlson. The site can be found at [sherlockcomics.com](http://sherlockcomics.com).



- A MULTI-PAGE SPREAD COVERED AN INTERVIEW WITH BRENT SPINER—Data of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" fame. Of note, "Spiner, a diehard classic-film buff, enjoys film noir as much as he does Sherlock Holmes. In October of 2021, he released a book entitled *Fan Fiction: A Mem-Noir*, a fiction story inspired by true events and the noir films he loves. The book is chock-full of "Star Trek" references, plus Easter eggs that film fans will get a kick out of. A careful read will reveal nods to films like "Laura," "This Gun for Hire," and even "Dressed to Kill," the film starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce. 'I was a devotee of the Basil Rathbone series,' Spiner tells me, 'even though there's only a couple of them that are 'real' Sherlock Holmes and then they set them in World War II. But Sherlock can exist any time, I think, and obviously has in many different forms, including my own.'"

## Answers To Cook's Quiz on Page 1:

1. The latter end of June, 1902.
2. He refused a knighthood.
3. Nathan.
4. John.
5. In real estate and in the wheat pit in Chicago.
6. At least five million dollars.
7. Dr. Lysander Starr.
8. Howard.
9. John Garrideb.
10. James Winter and Morecroft.
11. Rodger Prescott.
12. A counterfeiting press.





The Sound  
of the  
Baskervilles

By appointment  
of Her Majesty,  
Queen Victoria

## Ineffable Twaddle

The monthly publication of  
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A Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars since March 31, 1980  
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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

## Romnes Rhymes Again!

### "Practical Advice Regarding Holmes' Drug Problem"

*You need him for the rent  
Let him have his 7 percent.*

### "Adventure of the Lion's Mane"

*Like Sci-Fi on the telly  
This turned Holmes' brain to jelly.*

### "Speckled Band Warning Label"

*Never play mad hatter  
With a toxic adder!*

## Marcy Family Photos, Summer Edition

SOBs Brian, Marcia, Orion and Eros Marcy have been living abroad the last 2 years, due to Brian's government job. The boys have been growing like weeds, but they have had some wonderful Adventures!



Top: Orion & Dad Brian  
in Dublin

Middle: Marcia balloons!

Bottom: The boys at LegoLand