Don’t Trust Anyone Over 30?
Try again: The SOBs are now 37 Years Young!

Date: April 1, 2017
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: SOB Carrol Clemens’ home in Federal Way

Join us as we celebrate the 37th Anniversary of the continuous operation of this Club with afternoon tea!

Please try to bring traditional fare of the sort served at “afternoon tea”: Tea cakes, finger sandwiches, and small 2-bite sweet or savory treats are Carrol’s suggestions!

Here is a great way to spend your Saturday afternoon—visiting, eating, imbibing, winning free raffle items, and welcoming springtime!! If you missed our Masters’ Celebration, here’s a 2nd chance to Tea-Up!!! We’d love to see YOU there!!

Driving Directions to Carrol’s Home:
From I-5 north- or southbound, exit in Federal Way at S.W. 320th Street and head west. After passing through intersections at 21st Ave. S.W. and at 26th Ave. S.W., turn left on S.W. 323rd Street. Then take the first left on 33rd Avenue S.W. Clemens’ home is on your right at 32148—33rd Avenue S.W. If you need further, please call her at (253) 838-1790.

In Honour of Our Study of MUSG... A Quiz on “The Adventure of the Musgrave Ritual”
By: SOB Charlie Cook (Café Noir)

1. What three habits of Holmes allowed Watson to give himself virtuous airs?
2. What five “pretty little problems” did Holmes pull from his large tin box?
3. Where did Holmes reside when he first came to London?
4. What was the oldest inhabited building in the county of Western Sussex?
5. Which of Reginald’s many servants was the longest in service, and for how long?
6. What two extraordinary skills did that servant have and what was his major flaw?
7. Why couldn’t Musgrave sleep the night he caught the servant going through Musgrave’s Family documents?
8. What two females were mentioned by name in the tale and what was their association with Musgrave’s household?
9. What date was chiseled on the door of the old wing of Musgrave manor?
10. What mathematical discipline is mentioned by Reginald Musgrave?
11. Who was the right-hand man of Charles II in his wanderings?
12. Recite or write out “The Musgrave Ritual!

Answers to this Quiz may be found on Page 5.

SOB Lauren Messenger (left) will be our GUEST EDITOR for the June 2017 issue of Ineffable Twaddle! Regular Editor Terri will—beginning in April—start referring some of your essays, quizzes and articles to Lauren. Please support her by being generous with your submissions!!

Email her at: laurenmessenger.museums@gmail.com

Volume 36 Issue 4
April, 2017

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Happy Easter! (April 16)
Meeting Moves to April 23; Haugen Challenges YOU!

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 23, 2017 at The Seattle Public Library (Queen Anne Branch) at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (driving directions at left).

This is one week later than usual as Easter falls on our usual date of April 16!

As the SOBs continue their chronological journey through the Holmes Canon yet again, the second story considered will be “The Adventure of the Musgrave Ritual.” Set in 1879 before our favourite duo even met, this tale is once again narrated by Holmes in which he recollects one of his very first cases in conversation with Watson...one which contains a mysterious ritual and the disappearance of two of Musgrave’s staff members.

And, if you recall from a meeting last year when PFL David forgot his briefcase (the first such occurrence in about 30 years), he turned the tables on us—challenging us to make up quiz questions on the fly that day! It’s time for Haugen to turn the tables again, so let’s have some fun! Come up with a couple of questions (or more) and join us in another “quiz yourselves” challenge!! SOB Lauran Stevens will provide an able assist to PFL David’s efforts with segments of an audio tape she has of MUSG.

Join Us May 6 for the Annual Wreath Throw

“It was on the third of May” that Holmes and Watson arrived in Meiringen and the catastrophe at Reichenbach was played out.

Our Annual Wreath Throw—to mourn Holmes’ “death” and celebrate the fact that he never really died—is Saturday, May 6.

We’ll meet in the park south of Falls Terrace Restaurant along the Deschutes River in Tumwater at 11:30 a.m. and walk from there to the Falls for the wreath throw, photos and champagne toast.

As is usual, lunch will follow immediately (about 1:00 p.m.) at Falls Terrace Restaurant.

We’ll also remember our fellow SOBs who have passed on before us...a solemn occasion yet always a lovely spring day to share a stroll, a toast, memories and friends!

Driving directions to the Annual Wreath Throw:

• If northbound on I-5, take Exit 103; follow Deschutes Way SW north (straight) for about one block to Tumwater Falls Park, just south of The Falls Terrace Restaurant on your right.

• If southbound on I-5, take Exit 103; stay straight to go onto 2nd Avenue SW, turn left onto Boston St SE, then left onto Deschutes Way SW. Tumwater Falls Park is just south of The Falls Terrace Restaurant on your left.

The Slush Pile: Editor Terri Catches Up!

Apologies to All for the Tardy Publication of these News Features!

Received a mailing in mid-January from Larry Elliott of Madison, WI asking that we feature “his oil paintings”. He directed me to pieceoftimepuzzles.com, thingamajigsaw.com/traditional.html#elliott, and YouTube.com at “Larry Elliott’s amazing paintings and puzzles”. He also attached a photocopy of the cover of the Fall 2014 issue of the Association of Game & Puzzle Collectors (AGPC.org; now AGPI.org) quarterly newsletter, which carried the headline: “Another case of Holmes? No, Watson...it’s the Puzzle Parley XII Best of Show!” and a photo of Mr. Elliott’s work. After some additional deduction, I found this image on the web by surfing Piece Time Puzzles’ site. A lovely...

Continued on Page 4
Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

⇒ Thanks to SOB Pat McIntosh: The January 2017 issue of the Shop PBS catalogue had lots to offer our Sherlockians and Cumberbabes! Page 8 featured the 3-disc DVD set of the Cumberbatch vehicle “The Hollow Crown: The Wars of the Roses” for $44.99. Page 11 featured the 2-disc DVD set of Season Four of “Sherlock” for $29.99. On that page, too, you find their offer of Seasons One through Four for $109.99—a savings of $2.50 per set; a Sherlock Action Figure with mobile phone, skull, and violin and bow for $23.99; the DVD (for $24.99) and book (for $15.99) of “Arthur & George”; and the 12-disc DVD set of the entire Jeremy Brett series for $179.99. More: shopPBS.org, (800) 645-4727.

⇒ From SOB Charlie Cook: I went to “Mystery Scene Magazine” online and found a nice Sherlock Holmes Puzzle (number 142). I learned of a radio actor who played Moriarty that I never knew about. The puzzle might be worth your attention. EDITOR’S NOTE: After PFL David sent Charlie’s challenge out by email, SOB Sheila Holtgrieve took it up and said, “Hi, did the puzzle: fun, not hard.” Try it at: mysteryscenemag.com/fun-games.


⇒ Fact or Fiction? Prattle or Publicity?? From SOB Cameron Brandon: Here’s the Sun article I was mentioning, showing the “frosty relationship” between Cumberbatch and Freeman. The headline on January 16 was, “Sherlock’s Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman cast doubt over further series due to ‘frosty friendship’.” An excerpt: “Pals say the pair are ‘hardly close’ while filming the BBC detective drama and spend their time apart in between shoots. Co-creator Steven Moffat has already said the future of the show depends on the two actors’ busy Hollywood schedules and their willingness to return. It comes as the Series Four finale pulled in the show’s lowest-ever audience with a peak of 6.2 million on Sunday. A source said: “Benedict and Martin aren’t mates and they don’t spend time together away from the show. More: https://www.thesun.co.uk/tvandshowbiz/2629818/sherlocks-benedict-cumberbatch-and-martin-freeman-cast-doubt-over-further-series-due-to-frosty-friendship/

⇒ For our Andrew Scott fans, from SOB Margie Deck: A review of Scott’s play in London raves, “Andrew Scott blazes as Hamlet at Almeida”. An excerpt: “Expectations about Scott’s appearance, following his star turn in BBC’s phenomenally successful Sherlock, mean a frenzy over tickets and there’s added piquancy given the last major London Hamlet was played by Sherlock Holmes himself, Benedict Cumberbatch but there is no contest. Where the Cumberbatch production…” Continued on Page 5

SOB David Rafferty in Defence of Sherlock Series Four

I enjoyed watching Series Four of the BBC program Sherlock. When I heard that some at the South Sound SOB meeting did not share my favorable view, I felt compelled to rise to its defence.

I liked that many unexpected events occur in the Series. A major character is killed proving that no one is safe. The end of Series Three seemed to indicate that Moriarty had returned. Sherlock even thought so. But as confirmed in “The Abominable Bride”, he wasn’t miraculously resurrected. Instead, the creators introduce new villains, perhaps not as humorous as Moriarty but still very compelling. I also liked that the characters reveal more flaws than in past series. Sherlock is especially crippled by his drug use, John is tempted to stray, and Mycroft keeps major secrets from his own brother. Series Four has more continuity between the episodes than previous series. No episode is a completely self-contained story such as “The Hounds of Baskerville” or “The Blind Banker.” Not that I don’t like self-contained stories. But the recurring characters and themes compelled me to keep watching. I wanted to know how Sherlock and John’s relationship would recover from the tragic loss. The villain of the final episode actually appears in all three. I see this as level up from Series One, which hints at Moriarty in the first two episodes but who doesn’t actually appear until the third. Yet we can guess who he is throughout that series. In Series Four, the orchestrator actually appears in all three, but we don’t fully learn who they are until the end of episode two. I liked that Series Four had a relatively happy ending. The sides cannot be simply divided into good and evil. I feel the overriding theme of the series is family. This family suffers a great loss, a falling-out, a rediscovery, and a threat from within. Unlike the previous series, Series Four does not leave us with a cliffhanger, leaving us to wonder if this is the end.

Perhaps that is the cliffhanger: Will they return?
The Slush Pile:...

...rendering and an award winner!! To contact the artist, write to: 4910 Odama Road, Madison, WI 53711-1337, or call (608) 233-0546.

♀ A Conversation between PFL David and SOB Ann Milam: The reviews of Arthur and Sherlock: Conan Doyle and the Creation of Holmes by Michael Sims (Bloomsbury, $27) started arriving when SOBs Geoff Jeffery, Pat McIntosh and Bill Seil all sent along the Seattle Time’s comments from Sunday, January 22 (“How uncanny doctor led Arthur to create Sherlock”). SOB Ann Milam sent the link she found for Graham Moore’s views in the New York Times on January 26 (“How Conan Doyle Landed on Sherlock Holmes and Why He’s Stayed With Us”)—asking, “The NY Times gave this new book a glowing review—has anyone read it?” Then the February 11 review in the Wall Street Journal came from both Bill Seil and Ann Milam (“Jon Lellenberg reviews “Arthur and Sherlock: Conan Doyle and the Creation of Holmes” by Michael Sims”). Offered PFL David to Ann, “I am familiar with the book, having just finished reading it. The format is interesting because each chapter is only four to six pages long. He delves more into the writers and people who used deduction before Doyle did (e.g., Voltaire and his book “Zadig, or The Book of Fate”, which was published in the 1740s; Zadig used the type of deductions that Holmes used later.). These sites and quotes from Doyle are used to show that Doyle did not think of Holmes as a totally unique creation.” Ann continued, “Based on your review, I’m going to order the book...but this reader didn’t care for it! Wonder if the critic was a well-read SOB? ...or do we have a member named “A.A. Bove”? (who posted a review on Amazon on February 12 saying, “Don’t be fooled by the NY Times book review!! Holmes readers will be sadly disappointed.) And do you recommend Sims’ book? PFL David’s bottom line: “Sims’ book is not the best book on Conan Doyle and Sherlock. I think the best is "Arthur Conan Doyle: A Life in Letters". These are the actual letters he wrote to his mother during her lifetime. But there is a lot of material to slog through to get the information you want. Sims’ book offers a short cut through only some of his material. Being a short cut, it does not contain everything. So, if you want a quick overview of Conan Doyle’s life and the influences that helped him create Sherlock Holmes, I would buy Sims’ book. If you want a book that has everything, I wouldn’t. I found a number of chapters fascinating because of people who probably influenced Doyle that I did not know about. On the other hand, there is a lot of information on Doyle’s father which was of less interest to me. The review you forwarded by A.A. Bove is correct when he notes the number of biographical pages at the end (and, no, he’s not an SOB!). No book will satisfy everyone. So, can I guarantee that you will be enthralled with Sims book?...No. Will you know more at the end than you did at the beginning? Yes.”

♀ As Margaret Nelson recouped from foot surgery, she had her nose in the London Times, which skewed Sherlock Series 4! The comments fielded on January 22, 2017 in their TV column “You Say” were scathing: “Does the person who sets the questions for Only Connect also write the Sherlock scripts?”, “We switched on Sherlock with great expectations. Oh dear. What on earth was going on? Total tosh and such a waste of one of our best actors today.”, “In what way was Sherlock ‘based on the works of Arthur Conan Doyle’? The series shows a contempt for comprehensibility and narrative fluency.”, “What is it with the BBC and Toby Jones? How is it we see him in The Witness for the Prosecution, quickly followed by Sherlock? Put on Radio 4 and he’s in every play. Are there no other actors or is Jones’s agent permanently on to BBC casting? Give us a break!”

In that same issue was the editorial cartoon at left!

Then a TV critic had this to say, “Two weeks ago, having waded through the nonsense that was the Doctor Who, sorry, Sherlock opener, I expressed hope that the BBC’s flagship drama would improve once Mary had been killed off. Sadly, it didn’t..... Conan Doyle’s detective was a man with excellent deductive abilities who solved crimes. In the hands of Moffat and Gatiss, he has become a histrionic, highly camp superhero/fool who can tell what type of cat a person owns, but can’t spot when a glass wall isn’t there. It’s disappointing. It’s an outrage. I think I might tweet about it.”

The Times wasn’t done with Sherlock yet! In the February 8, 2017 issue, reviewer Matt Rudd’s column was headed, “Sorry Sherlock, you’re just phoning it in”. Aside from a “gap-year kid” dead in a car and the smashing of six busts of Margaret Thatcher, this reviewer jabbed episode 1 with these squibs, “So now we’re back to the Designated Strong Female plot device: Mary swapped her Baby Bjorn for a balaclava and set off to find out the truth about Georgia. Meanwhile, John Watson became the Designated Weak Male plot device, changing nappies and fancying other women on buses...When Benedict Cumberbatch first did sociopathic Sherlock, he was brilliant ...That went out of the Baker Street window a long time ago. In this hotchpotch of overarching, needy themes, shorter subplots and in the...
Things to See, Buy,... Continued from Page 3

...colossal auditorium of the Barbican, was undermined by nonsensical gimmicks and poorly thought out sight-lines, the version in the pint-sized Almeida is a triumph on every level. I am trying to resist saying a palpable hit but it has just slipped out. Robert Icke has done it again." Read it all at: https://measuresstillformeasure.com/2017/02/19/re_view-andrew-scott-blazes-as-hamlet-at-almeida/

Notes SOB Bill Seil: Showtime has ordered "Melrose", a five-part limited series titled and executive produced by Sherlock and Doctor Strange star Benedict Cumberbatch. Says the promo: Melrose skewers the upper class as it tracks the protagonist’s harrowing odyssey from a deeply traumatic childhood through adult substance abuse and, ultimately, toward recovery. Cumberbatch's Patrick Melrose is an aristocratic and outrageously funny playboy who struggles to overcome the damage inflicted by a horribly abusive father and the mother who tacitly condoned the behavior.

The Slush Pile... Continued from Page 4

...look how clever we are ‘fillers Cumberbatch is no longer acting a part...When Mary dies—improbably, by deciding to jump in front of a bullet—he starts to show feelings, and the interminable last half-hour becomes a bad ethics tutorial on mortality. Sherlock has become derivative of those programmes your 10-year-old son enjoys more than you do. Explosion. Joke. Car chase. Joke. Meaningful conversation with violins. Joke. You could swap Cumberbatch’s Moriarty for ‘Daleks’, nobody would notice.”

continued from Page 4

From our Canadian pal Bob Coghll, BSI, came this in late January: “Finally found this in New Westminster (BC); there were copies in London Drugs and I also noticed some in the magazine rack at the checkout at the local Safeway.” Nice picture of Bob, but not having seen this issue of LIFE Magazine—was it an antique, was it a new issue, what?—we asked him, “What gives?” Offered Bob, “The LIFE Magazine with Rathbone on the cover—not a picture of me holding the LIFE magazine with Rathbone on the cover—is the current one at the stands. But I had heard of it and seen pictures of others holding THEIR copies (which is why I posted me holding MY copy) and started looking in earnest. It is a special edition: All Sherlock, and it goes for $16.99 Canadian, plus tax. Want me to get one for you?”

Lucky for us, SOB Al Nelson brought his copy of the magazine to our South Sound Meeting February 5; most liked it, but sad comments were heard that there wasn’t a single picture of Brett or hisWatsons in it! Then SOB Dwight Holmes emailed a photo of his copy of LIFE (along with a nice image of his hand)! Two weeks later SOB Sunny Even bestowed her copy on me—which I hope to excerpt from liberally!!

Answers to Quiz on “MUSG” on Page 3

1. He kept cigarettes in a coal shuntle; tobacco in a per- 2. Cess nyloning the Tell ancran manoeuvres? 3. 3. He slipped and deactivated the maneuvered course. 4. The manor house of Hurlstone. 5. Brunton, the butler for 20 years. 6. He spoke several languages and played many 7. He had taken a cup of strong 8. He had taken a cup of strong café noir. 9. 1607. 10. Sea Witch, the gamekeeper’s daughter. 11. Sir Robert Musgrave. 12. “Whose was it?” “He who is gone.” “Who shall give it?” “For the sake of the trust.” 11. “What gives?” Offered Bob, “The LIFE Magazine with Rathbone on the cover—not a picture of me holding the LIFE magazine with Rathbone on the cover—is the current one at the stands. But I had heard of it and seen pictures of others holding THEIR copies (which is why I posted me holding MY copy) and started looking in earnest. It is a special edition: All Sherlock, and it goes for $16.99 Canadian, plus tax. Want me to get one for you?”

Coming Soon!!!
Mark your Calendar now for these upcoming events!

The SOBs’ 21st Dr. John H. Watson Picnic
• Date: Saturday, July 29, 2017
• Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
• Location: Seahurst Park, on Puget Sound, Burien
No cost, just a potluck, games and fun!

The Stormy Petrels of BC are Turning 30, and The SOBs are invited to help them celebrate!
• Date: Saturday, September 16th, 2017
• Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (those who wish can stay for dinner at a local restaurant at 5:00)
• Location: The Billy Bishop Pub (Legion), 1407 Laburnum Street, Vancouver; www.billybishopslegation.org; (604) 568-4130; west of Downtown Vancouver, across the Burrard Bridge; west on Cornwall, north on Laburnum
• Price: $30 CDN, per person for meal and swag!

**The Sound of the Baskervilles**

**Ineffable Twaddle**

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Serving the Greater Puget Sound Region of Western Washington, USA

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**Member News & Notes**

SOBs attending our March 19, 2017 Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen, were:

- Sheila Holtgrieve
- Vivika Sundqvist
- Lauren Messenger
- Cameron Brandon
- Shannon Wallace
- Kashena Konecki
- Nancy Holder
- “Mel” Briganti
- Al Nelson
- Francis Bond
- Terri Haugen
- Alex Snow
- Lauran Stevens
- Saul Pwanson
- Melinda Michaelson
- Chris “Bear” Berwald

- **VP Kashena** moderated a great, well-prepared and informed panel—Lauren M, Cameron and Al—to kick-off our new chronological study of the Canon with factoids, impressions and challenges on GLOR! A job well-done! Our webmaster Shannon and Kashena both earned the coveted Footprints of a Gigantic Hound Award at our Masters’ luncheon on March 11 (see further on the blog portion at our website) but, alas—with only one trophy—the two will be splitting custody of the prize! Thanks to Francis for running up to Shannon’s desk at the Library and getting this shot since her turn is first! ★ No guests at this Meeting but Saul Pwanson came back and is now the newest SOB on our membership rolls! Welcome, Saul!

- **SOB Marcia Marcy** dropped a line from her recent jaunt to Tokyo: Brian and I had a small adventure going to “Pub Sherlock Holmes”. Brick with ivy on the walls on the outside and, of course, the famous shadow of Holmes’ face with the cap and pipe. After seeking out taking pictures, we walked in the restaurant to find the decor is just as I would have hoped. This place made me feel like I was about to meet up with Holmes himself. It’s a bit dark because of all the wood, but there are small bits and bobs pertaining to Sherlock everywhere. It’s all about Sherlock in his own time too. Nothing about Benedict Cumberbatch anywhere.

- **Our condolences to long-time SOB Jean Macdonald**, whose beloved daughter-in-law Amy passed away in March.

- **It’s a good time to choose your Canonical Name**—an alter-ego, a person, place or thing from Sherlockiana with which you’d like to be identified!

- Take the time now to note your alter-ego selection on a dues renewal form where indicated! Editor Terri will call or email you with any conflict; she keeps those records.

- Don’t know if your choice of a person, place or thing is already taken? Phone or email Editor Terri (above) to find out in advance if your choice is already taken.

- **Elementary, My Dear Nadia**! Did you catch young SOB Nadia Alexander’s performance in the March 26 episode of “Elementary”? She shined in the short but powerful role of 14-year-old Hope Neligian in “Dead Man’s Tale” (season 5, ep 18). She’s got 6 films on her resume (with a new one in post-production) and 9 TV credits (including “Law & Order” and “Boardwalk Empire”). Did we mention, Nadia is SOB Charlie Cook’s granddaughter and, clearly, a real talent to watch! Kudos, Nadia!