



INEFFABLE TWADDLE



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

—The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle

Volume 40, Issue 2 • February 2021

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

SOB Club Logo Paraphernalia...Coming Your Way!!!

By: PFL David Haugen

One of the advantages to being an SOB Member living in the Pacific Northwest region over the last decade was that—when you attended our face-to-face meetings—you could pick up one of our white ceramic SOB logo coffee mugs for free.



This has always been unfair to Members who live outside the Puget Sound area and, now, to new Members everywhere who've joined since the COVID-19 pandemic hit hard in March and lockdowns have restricted our contacts to Zoom Meetings.

There must be at least forty (40) of these mugs currently sitting in our garage?! If YOU don't have one of these Club logo mugs and would like one, please send me an email with your name and address and one will be sent to you free of charge. You won't pay for the mug or the cost of shipping, and this newest logo is designed by **SOB Airy Maher!**

There are three other things that, because of their size, you can request to be included when we ship your mug to you:

- ✓ The first is one of our original Club pens that say, "The Sound of the Baskervilles" on the barrel. This pen is silver and red and just so happens to be the vendor's "Watson" model! I must note here that I have very few of these.
- ✓ The second is the newest Club pen that has, etched in silver on its barrel, "Proud SOB," along with a silhouette of Sherlock Holmes. These were created in response to the excellent idea and design by SOB Associate Editor Lauren Messenger. I have a few pens that are all royal blue and many that are all black. All these pens write with black ink.
- ✓ The third item is the "Sherlock Holmes 50 pence coin" that was issued by the Royal Mint in 2019. The coin has the face of Queen Elizabeth II on one side and a silhouette of Holmes, with a list of some of his cases, on the other, and is legal tender in the U.K. **Ed. Note:** This pence coin is also shown (far right) inside David's "coin display frame," which he obtained, and you can purchase, from Amazon for \$5.⁹⁹ plus tax and postage.



So, why now? In counsel with SOB Treasurer Melinda Michaelson, we've discovered that not being able to meet in person for ten months has saved the Club money!! And what better way to use that money than to benefit our wonderful, loyal SOB Members...with some cool swag!!

To request these items, or if questions develop, please contact me at: david@soundofthebaskervilles.com, or tanddhaugen1@msn.com, or (253) 460-2753 [landline].

I'll look forward to hearing from many of you soon!! **Happy New Year!**



★ Zoom Meeting ★
Sunday, February 21, 2021

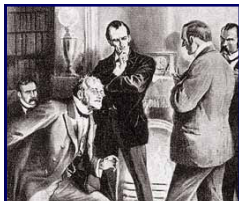
12:00 (Noon) to 12:30 p.m. Pacific time—
Free-form chatting and visiting!!

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



SOB Program Chair
Sunny Even on
“The Adventure of
***Mysteria* Lodge”:**

Perhaps Doyle had the title to this story *before* he had the plot—the delightful alliteration of “Wisteria” and “mystery” is likely no coincidence, and just begs to be read in a cozy chair by the fireplace with a brandy by one’s side.



“Dead? Did you say he was dead?” ...
 “Murder, if ever there was one upon earth.”

Some would say that the title is the only creative aspect to “*The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge*,” a criticism of ACD’s later stories and their formulaic nature. By 1908 when WIST was published, Doyle had perfected the Sherlock Holmes narrative: each mystery emerging naturally from the setting in 221B, to the satisfying denouement of wrongs righted and villains punished.

WIST in particular lays bare these story-telling mechanisms, explicitly stating Holmes’ thinking or reflecting it in the actions of others, such as the shrewd Inspector Baynes of the Surrey Constabulary (*clearly a student of Holmes’ methods*).

While some find fault with the repetition and transparency of this formula, I find it quite lovely, like the exposed brickwork of a historic building. I read WIST as a blueprint created by a master architect, revealing a classic two-part mystery story for all who want to emulate.

Cook’s Quiz on “Wisteria Lodge!”

By: SOB Charlie Cook

1. What word did Holmes ask Watson to define?
2. Who sent Holmes a telegram using that word?
3. Holmes reminds Watson how bored he’d been since what event?
4. Name the two policemen who interrupted Holmes’ client’s story as he began telling it!

5. Name the murdered man found at Wisteria Lodge!
6. For what did Holmes thank his lucky fate?
7. Name the police officer who was house sitting Wisteria Lodge.
8. What was stamped on the clothes left behind at Wisteria Lodge?
9. What three items did Holmes tell Watson he needed, to spend instructive days in the country?
10. Name the man once called “The Tiger of San Pedro.”
11. What was the assumed name of Signora Victor Durando and what was her occupation?
12. How did Holmes describe the difference between the words “grotesque” and “horrible?”

Answers may be found on Page 7



SOB Kris Hambrick’s
Sherlock on Screen:
“The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge”

Once again, we are faced with a difficult exercise in adaptation: How do you string together a narrative about someone being alone when they wake up, some red herring racist imagery, and an off-screen reckoning into entertaining television? Perhaps that’s why, as so often, we have few versions to take in. Unfortunately, both Eille Norwood’s *The Tiger of San Pedro* and the NHK puppet version are unavailable. I am especially dismayed at our lack of a Japanese puppet *Wisteria Lodge*, because it seems that the series takes place at a London boarding school where Lestrade is a guidance counsellor.

The Granada episode of this story aired in 1988, toward the end of the *Return of Sherlock Holmes* with Edward Hardwicke firmly ensconced in the role of Watson. Some changes are made in the structure to amp up the action. For instance, instead of opening with Scott Eccles’ arrival at Baker Street with the confusing mystery resembling the plot of “Norwegian Wood” (*a 1987 novel by Japanese author Haruki Murakami*) but with less personal grooming, we go right for the foreign drama. Other changes involve Watson running after “the Mulatto” (*Can we be grateful this is less racist than the original text but also...ugh?*) instead of the constable, and a chase at the end to the train station, in which Holmes seems fully aware some form of “justice” will be done...which it is before the credits roll.

All in all, it’s a way to streamline the narrative and give Watson something more to do, and it does remove some of the more ...

Continued on Page 7

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

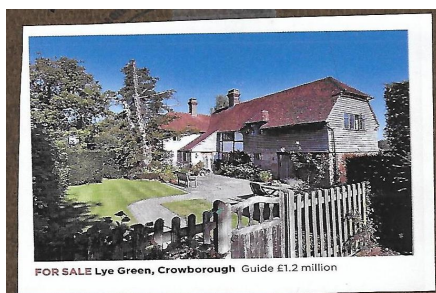
⇒ **Time Sensitive:** Our own **SOB NANCY HOLDER, BSI, WILL MODERATE A PANEL ON THE SUBJECT OF THE “ENOLA HOLMES” FILM** during the *virtual online convention “BOSKONE 58,”* which the New England Science Fiction Association will hold February 12-14, 2021. For more, go to: <https://boskone.org/registration/>. Cost is \$25.



⇒ **Two Items from SOB Allen Nelson, BME:**

● **DID YOU EVER WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MAID RACHEL HOWELLS WHO LEFT POOR BRUNTON TO DIE UNDER THE CRYPT IN THE MUSGRAVE RITUAL?** Perhaps she made it to America and took on the Musgrave name as a new identity. I leave it to you to figure a connection but I have discovered **THE MUSGRAVE PENCIL CO. OF SHELBYVILLE, TN.** They have been making quality pencils in the U.S. since 1916. These are quality pencils and fragrant, red cedar pencil boxes well worth any Sherlockian's consideration. Just search for “The Musgrave Pencil Co.” on the internet and give them some business. Great products at good prices making thoughtful gifts.

● You now have the **OPPORTUNITY TO OWN A HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE WHERE ACD SPENT HIS LATER YEARS.** *Country Life Magazine* has an advert for a house called “Lye Green” in Crowborough for only £1.2 million! Here's a look at it.



⇒ **From SOB / Author Bill Seil:**

● **FROM MYSTERY WRITERS OF AMERICA ON JANUARY 25**—“MWA is proud to announce, as we celebrate the 212th anniversary of the birth of Edgar Allan Poe, the

nominees for the 2021 Edgar Allan Poe Awards, honoring the best in mystery fiction, non-fiction and television published or produced in 2020. The 75th Annual Edgar® Awards will be celebrated on April 29, 2021.” The only Sherlockian nominee, however, is **Laurie R. King's *Riviera Gold*** (Penguin Random House–Ballantine Books), nominated under the “G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS SUE GRAFTON MEMORIAL AWARD” category.

● **LARRY HAGMAN AS SHERLOCK HOLMES, THE PILOT FOR A SERIES THAT NEVER HAPPENED.** Have a look at Larry Hagman—of “I Dream of Jeannie” and “Dallas” TV show fame—in *The Return of the World's Greatest Detective*—as a policeman who thinks he's Sherlock Holmes. This “one-off” appears to have been a pilot for a series that was never picked up by NBC! One reviewer said, “...but it all feels very flat and almost sitcom-like resulting in a harmlessly bland adventure. Hagman is entirely the wrong choice for the character as his performance is relentlessly one-note and feels more like imitation than acting.” @ One website describes it this way: “*The Return of the World's Greatest Detective* is a 1976 American made-for-television mystery comedy film starring Larry Hagman as an inept motorcycle cop named Sherman Holmes, who, after sustaining a head injury, became convinced that he was actually Sherlock Holmes and, as a result of his injury, acquired formidable powers of observation and deduction. Dean Hargrove and Roland Kibbee wrote the film's story directly for television, intending it to be a pilot for a series that would have been titled “Alias Sherlock Holmes.” The film originally aired on NBC on June 16, 1976.” **To watch, go to:**

YouTube.com and, in the search line, enter: “**sherlock holmes the return of the world's greatest detective (1976)**” **Ed. Note:** Google this site for some truly awful Sherlockian films...70 of them(!): [70 Sherlock Holmes Movies Ranked \[Part One\] – /Film \(slashfilm.com\)](https://www.slashfilm.com/70-sherlock-holmes-movies-ranked-part-one/)

⇒ **From SOB Geoff Jeffery:**

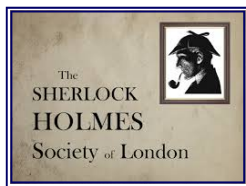
● We recently watched the 1920's-era “**AGATHA AND THE TRUTH OF MURDER**” ON NETFLIX, which includes actor Michael McElhatton as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and Arthur makes mention of Sherlock Holmes!! Here's the description: “...a 2018 British alternative history drama about crime writer Agatha Christie becoming embroiled in a real-life murder case during her 11-day disappearance in 1926.” Ruth Bradley stars as Agatha, who really did disappear for 11 days in 1926!

● A couple of items **FROM SHERLOCK HOLMES MAGAZINE (SUMMER 2020):**

★ **ANDREW LYCETT'S NEW CONAN DOYLE'S WIDE WORLD** (Bloomsbury, 2020, £20) “collects... **Continued on Page 6**



**HEEDING THE CALL OF
THE SHERLOCK HOLMES
SOCIETY OF LONDON'S
INVITATION TO ATTEND THE VIRTUAL
CELEBRATION OF THEIR 66TH ANNUAL
DINNER ON 16 JANUARY 2021 VIA ZOOM, SOBs ALLEN &
MARGARET NELSON HAPPILY TOOK THEM UP ON THAT OFFER!
HERE IS MARGARET'S REPORT:**



**The Sherlock Holmes Society of
London's (SHSL) January 16, 2021
Zoom Meeting, entitled
"The Louche Lockdown Libation"
By: SOB Margaret Nelson**

The SHSL has held formal dinner meetings in previous Januarys. Most recently, they have been held at an exclusive, members' restaurant at the Houses of Parliament in London and reservations were always sold out fast. This year, due to COVID restrictions, the SHSL meeting was held via Zoom.

Regardless of being at home, participants were urged to wear formal wear but warned to think ahead during the time of standing for toasts, to consider whether they were wearing Bermuda shorts or worse on their lower halves and to adjust their stance accordingly!

Over 200 people were able to participate. **Mr. David Jones** chaired the meeting in his tux and began with a toast to the Queen, followed by toasts to Holmes and Watson. **Les Klinger** gave the first talk about his own early experience of reading "The Blue Carbuncle" as a Chicago boy and his not understanding many of the "British-isms" in the story—they made no sense to him. For example, he thought that Henry Baker must have been an auto mechanic as Watson describes him as having a "rusty" coat. Klinger also read the list of clues and conclusions that Holmes made about the condition of the battered Baker bowler and pointed out that he used none of these but simply put an ad in the paper to find Baker!

The second speaker, **Peter Horrocks**, discussed aspects of pandemic life in the Canon. He implied that the corona virus evolved from the plague on the London docks, which Holmes imitated in "The Dying Detective" and, perhaps, which Moriarty had a hand in. He also noted that the King of Bohemia was concerned about it as he wore a long, black mask when he came to visit Holmes. Was this to protect ↗

himself from the plague because he knew Holmes was known for associating with disreputable people, or was it only to be worn until he could ascertain the degree of cleanliness in 221B's rooms, which Holmes would not allow Mrs. Hudson to dust?

After a break, there was a live presentation of "The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle" by professional actors, each of whom was in their own Zoom window. They cleverly worked out how to "pass" items—like glasses of brandy or papers—from one window to the other in a seamless manner. It was very well done and a perfect end for an entertaining and quite enjoyable meeting.

Post Scriptum: After thanking Brit & SOB Roger Johnson for allowing us to attend this event, he sent this reply:

"Thanks very much, Margaret!

It's not so long ago that meetings in such a manner were the stuff of science fiction. It's rather wonderful that, at this time of sickness, restriction and uncertainty, we can get together over the thousands of miles without leaving our own homes.

I'm copying (your message) to our fellow-Officers and Members of Council, to the principal speakers, and to others who helped make the "Louche Lockdown Libation" a success.

*And I'll ask you in turn, if you will, to pass on our greeting to our good friends in
The Sound of the Baskervilles.*

(It's just occurred to me...Back in November I gave a talk via Zoom to the *other* SOBs—the "Sherlockians of Baltimore." I don't know whether the "Old SOBS" is still active—that's the "Old Soldiers of Baker Street." Peter Blau would know, of course.)

With all best wishes to you and AI for a smooth and speedy return to global health and sanity,

—Yours ever, Roger and Jean"

Roger Johnson
Commissioning Editor:
The Sherlock Holmes Journal

Jean Upton
Editor: *The District Messenger*
www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk



*Jean Upton &
Roger Johnson of
The SH Society
of London.*

*Photo by SOB AI
Nelson, taken in
2012 on his trip to
Haselmere,
England*

Sherlock Holmes Teaching Grant Deadline is May 1, 2021

Dallas, TX -- The Beacon Society proudly announces that once again, grants to U.S. and Canadian teachers, librarians, children's museums, children's theaters, other entities working with students, and Sherlockian literary societies are available.



The grants, in honor of a wonderful Sherlockian, Jan Stauber, will provide up to \$750 to fund the development of a project that will introduce young people to Conan Doyle's stories about his famous fictional detective, Sherlock Holmes.

The Stauber Grants have been given to creative educators and librarians in the U.S. since 2004 and Canada since 2012. In the past 5 years, over sixty projects were funded. Previous awardees have used Sherlock Holmes to teach English, literature, history, mathematics, deductive reasoning, forensics, and critical thinking to students from elementary through high school.

The grants honor the late Jan Stauber, a New Jersey middle-school teacher who for 10 years visited classes in the guise of Sherlock Holmes to encourage students to discover the joys of reading. Stauber, who died in 2005, was the first winner of the society's Beacon Award, given annually to one teacher whose exemplary educational experiences fulfill the mission of the society.

The grant intends to promote similar creative work by giving financial help to public and private school teachers, organizations, libraries, children's museums, children's theaters, counselors and others who develop literary curriculum projects and other educational experiences encouraging young people to read, primarily by introducing them to the stories about Sherlock Holmes.

Interested individuals and organizations are invited to apply for the Beacon Society's major funding project. The grant period will be from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

An application form, guidelines and other details about the Stauber grant may be obtained at the society's website, <http://www.beaconsociety.com/the-jan-stauber-grant.html>. Other teaching materials, information about the Society, and resources for educating students can be found at the Society's website, <http://www.beaconsociety.com>. For more information about the Grants, contact Cindy Brown at epacpa@gmail.com.

The Beacon Society is a not-for-profit affiliate of the Baker Street Irregulars, the New York City-based group of Sherlock Holmes enthusiasts founded in 1934.

The deadline for 2021 grant applications is May 1, 2021.

With Regards,

**Steve Mason, Chair
Communications Committee
The Beacon Society**



Beacon Society Makes Your Doctorate in Sherlockiana Possible!!

The **Fortescue Scholarship Honours Program** was designed by the late Robert W. Hahn, BSI, for the edification and delight of those Sherlockians who have a scholarly interest in the Canon.

Hahn got the program's name from "**The Adventure of the Three Students**," which involves the theft of the answers for the scholarship competition.

For several years now, the Program has been administered by The Beacon Society on behalf of the Watsonian Society. Over 120 Sherlockians have completed all three of the exams and have received their "**Doctorate in Sherlockiana**."

Many have expressed a desire to have additional exams to continue to hone their Sherlockian skills. **In 2020, we issued our Re-Certification exam (strictly optional) for those who would like to continue the scholarship and a review of the Canon and other things Sherlockian. ...**

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Doctorate in Sherlockiana...!!

Continued from Page 5

The Beacon Society is excited to announce the availability of the 2021 Annual Re-Certification Exam for those who have completed the first 3 exams.



The questions are not-overly difficult—well, a few may be a little hard—and continue the primary purpose of the Program, which is to encourage increased familiarity with the 60 stories and the Sherlockian world. @ As always, there is no charge to participate in the program, and it is strictly optional or voluntary. @ To receive the Re-Certification Exam, please send me an email requesting it at: mason.steve8080@gmail.com. @ Once you complete the fillable exam, you can return it to us for grading. @ Those who successfully complete the exam will receive a certificate. @ And, you may use whatever resources you have (a copy of the Canon, the internet, etc.) to help in completing the Exam.

PLEASE NOTE, HOWEVER:

- *You must complete the exams in order. You may NOT request “The Recertification Exam” until you have completed the first 3 exams.*
- *This Program is based on the honors system, just like the original Fortescue Scholarship Program in the Canon. Please do not share this exam with anyone else. And, please do your own work.*

You may also request each of the Exams from the Fortescue Scholarship Honours Program webpage, on The Beacon Society Website at: <http://www.beaconsociety.com/fortescue-scholarship-exams.html>.

If you have any questions, please send an email to me. Good Luck, and have fun!

With Regards,

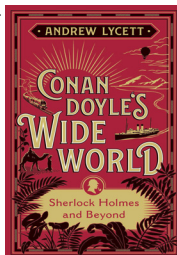
Steve Mason, Chair
Communications Committee
The Beacon Society



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

Continued from Page 3

“...and annotates the best of (Doyle’s) writings from around the world, which illuminate not just the places he visited, but the man himself.”...“His descriptions of his journeys and adventures—which took him to the Arctic and the Alps, throughout Africa, Australia and North America, and across every ocean in between—are full of insight, humour and exceptional evocations ↗



PLEASE RENEW NOW!

March is our annual Dues Renewal month!

That means that dues are due by
March 31, 2021!!

Renew using PayPal (on the “Join” page at our website), or use the Application that accompanies this issue of *Ineffable Twaddle*!!

www.soundofthebaskervilles.com



of place.”

★ A new title in the Sherlock Holmes video games series has been announced. *SHERLOCK HOLMES: CHAPTER ONE* by Frogwares is scheduled for release in 2021 for PC, Xbox One and PSF. The game is to be an origin story starring a twenty-one-year-old Holmes.

⇒ **From PFL David:** Speaking of writer Andrew Lycett, I attended the BSI’s 2021 (virtual) “Distinguished Speaker Lecture” on January 7 presented by Mr. Lycett, a renowned historian/biographer. He has written highly acclaimed biographies of many people including ACD. His *Conan Doyle: The Man Who Created Sherlock Holmes* was published in 2007 and was hailed as both “comprehensive and authoritative.” His latest book (see *column at left*), *Conan Doyle’s Wide World: Sherlock Holmes and Beyond*, deals with ACD’s travel writing. His talk concerned how Doyle’s travels showed up in his writing, both Holmesian and otherwise.

A Note from PFL David

⇒ **New: Story Toasts** ⇐

In normal—*non-pandemic*—times, on the first Saturday of March, we would be holding our Masters’ Dinner to salute Holmes & Watson and their meeting in 1881. And, I would be asking Members for their toasts to anything Sherlockian, Canonical or Victorian.

Since we will *not* be having that type of gathering this year, I thought we might ask for **Story Toasts** throughout the balance of this year—*such as Nancy Holder and guest Rich Krisciunas shared at our January 17 meeting*. That way we won’t get overrun with toasts at a single meeting, leaving none for others.

So start thinking please about our February 2021 story—Wisteria Lodge—and email me by February 18, with the subject matter of your toast “to” any who, what, where about the story.

I thought having three (3) toasts presented per story would suffice, to get us started, then we’ll see how it goes.

See my contact info on Page 1 of this issue of *Ineffable Twaddle*, and *thanks!*



Sherlock on Screen: "Wisteria Lodge"

Continued from Page 2

...egregious elements such as the poorly-researched voodoo. But there are too many tropes of the brutal, savage, third world "other" in the story that remain for me to be wholly comfortable with an adaptation that doesn't interrogate that narrative. The history of imperialism means that foreign squabbles are often far more complicated than they are depicted, and it doesn't play quite the same way today as it did in 1888—or even in 1988.



As far as the rest goes, there is an interesting, if oddly sinister, turn here by Freddie Jones¹ as Inspector Baynes. In the text, he is a charming sort of man who engages in a friendly rivalry with Holmes. Here, while the rivalry comes across, the tone of their interactions feels less convivial. Perhaps this was in order to create tension that is absent when

your villain has little screen time. Or perhaps it was a result of the reported lack of conviviality between Jones and Brett, as Brett himself reported to David Stuart Davies. Either way, I found myself wishing him a little more likeable.



¹ Mr. Jones also appeared in "Young Sherlock Holmes" (1985) as Chester Cragwitch, and in a second episode of the Granada / Brett series—"The Last Vampyre" (episode No. 34) as the "Pedlar." @ Born "Frederick Charles Jones," Freddie was born in 1927 in Dresden, Staffordshire, England and died in July 2019, aged 91, in Bicester, Oxfordshire, England. A prolific actor in television, theatre and cinema, he was active from 1960 through 2018.

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

1. Grotesque.
2. John Scott Eccles.
3. They locked up Colonel Carruthers.
4. Inspector Gregson of Scotland Yard and Inspector Baynes of the Surrey Constabulary.
5. Aloysius Garcia.
6. A few short hours from the insufferable fatigue of idleness.
7. Constable Walters.
8. Marx and Co., High Holborn.
9. A spud, a tin box and an elementary book on botany.
10. Don Juan Murrillo.
11. Burnet; governess of the children of the "Tiger of San Pedro."
12. "One step separates them."

Peter V. Tytell, a Typewriter Whisperer, Is Dead at 74

Contributed by SOB Margaret Nelson

Raised in his parents' repair shop, he was renowned for resolving disputes over the authenticity of documents, including one that put George W. Bush in a bad light. (Source: NYTimes, 8/18/2020)

Peter V. Tytell, whose intricate knowledge of typewriters, shaped amid the Olivettis, Underwoods and Royals of his parents' repair shop in New York, led him to a career as a **renowned forensic document examiner** and even to a small but important part in the 2004 presidential campaign, died on Aug. 11 at his home in Manhattan. He was 74. His sister said the cause was pleural mesothelioma.



Mr. Tytell's vast expertise in typewriter, paper and handwriting analysis was sought by prosecutors, public defenders, banks, insurance companies and crime laboratories to help resolve disputes over the authenticity of documents.

"Peter could look at one character in a typewritten document and he'd know which machine it was made by," Samiah Ibrahim, manager of forensic document examination at the Canada Border Services Agency, said in an interview.

"The thing about Peter was his recall. He had all these images in his head." One of his most famous cases involved the superscript "th."

In 2004, "60 Minutes" reported that President George W. Bush had received special treatment while serving in the Texas Air National Guard in the early 1970s. The segment, which aired during President Bush's re-election campaign against Senator John Kerry, used memoranda said to be from the files of Mr. Bush's squadron commander, Lt. Col. Jerry Killian, to make its case.

After the documents' authenticity came into question, CBS convened an independent panel to investigate why the segment had been produced and aired so hastily, and asked Mr. Tytell to examine... **Continued on Page 8**



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:
SOB Treasurer
P.O. Box 7633 • Tacoma, WA 98417

Typewriter Whisperer, Dead at 74

Continued from Page 7

...four documents.

Mr. Tytell told the panel that the superscript "th" in the documents could not have been made by the Olympia manual typewriter used in the early 1970s by the Texas Air National Guard. The "th" of the Olympia was underlined and did not rise above the adjacent characters, unlike the "th" in the documents featured in the "60 Minutes" segment. That, plus the proportional spacing and a typeface that closely resembled Times New Roman in Microsoft Word, led him to conclude that the documents were probably created on a computer unavailable in the early 1970s.

A New Bit About An Old Philo Vance Film

By SOB Judy Lyen

A Foreshadowing: The film "The Bishop Murder Case" based on a Philo Vance book of the same name by S.S. Van Dine came out in the U.S. in January 1930.

In a scene in the first half of the movie Philo Vance and District Attorney Markham enter and one of the suspects, Sigurd Arnesson (played by Roland Young), says "Why Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, what's this I hear about John E. Sprigg being shot?"

In this film, starring as Philo Vance is future Sherlock

Holmes, Basil Rathbone!

There is a *second, more indirect reference to Philo Vance as Sherlock Holmes* when Sigurd Arnesson, who has been helping collect evidence, refers to himself as "The juvenile Sherlock Holmes, not to be out done, has been collecting typewriter specimens," to Vance's senior Sherlock.



This film is actually a fairly good mystery, and the characters are well drawn, but the cinematography is dark and

clearly inexpensive. Like many early movies, exteriors are weak and it feels more like a stage play than a film.

From IMDb.com

Drama/Mystery, 3 January 1930 (USA) | Directors: David Burton, Nick Grinde | Writers: S.S. Van Dine (from the book by); Lenore J. Coffee (adaptation) | Stars: Basil Rathbone, Leila Hyams, Roland Young