



Ineffable Twaddle

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

The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle

A monthly publication of
The Sound of the Baskervilles
A Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars • Since March 31, 1980



Volume 43 ■ Issue 12 ■ December 2024

Join The SOB's Next In-Person Meeting, Sunday, December 15, 2024!

At the Seattle Public Library on Queen Anne Hill, located at 400 West Garfield

Door to the Meeting Room, which is on the lower level, opens at Noon. The meeting will start at 12:30 p.m. and end by 4 p.m.

Your contribution to the Cookie Exchange and snacks table will be most appreciated!

Getting there: From north- or southbound I-5, exit at Mercer Street and head west. Turn right on Queen Anne Avenue and head up the hill. At the 3-way stop sign at the top, turn left onto West Galer Street. At 4th Avenue, turn right. The library is one (1) block north on the northwest corner, at the cross with Garfield Street.

Says Program Chair Sunny Even

"...wishing him the compliments of the season..."

It is time once again for our annual Christmas revisit of the cherished **"The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle."** I hope to continue to surprise you with "new" things one can say about this old story....by wandering further and further afield from its actual subject matter. This year in continuance of the stories related to royalty (SIXN, SECO, ILLU, and BERY [coming up in January 2025]), I thought we could discuss Prince Albert a bit.

Prince Francis Charles Augustus Albert Emmanuel, Queen Victoria's beloved consort, is credited with bringing German traditions to our Dickensian Christmas celebrations, most notably spruce trees and gingerbread. Though Queen Charlotte brought the first decorated tree to England in 1800, Albert gets the credit due to an 1848 Illustrated London News engraving of the royal family which helped popularized this tradition. He should be credited for so much more.

Bringing with him an education rooted in science, the arts, and constitutional governance, Albert epitomized the conventions of public service we still honor today. ... Continued on Page 2

Meeting Content for 2024 SOB Meetings

We interrupt our Canonical study—returning as we do each year—to our visit of **"BLUE"**

December 15

The Blue Carbuncle
In-person meeting,
SOB Alexander Snow will lead our story discussion!



Holiday Card Exchange: Deadline Approaches!

The deadline for signing up for our 4th annual **Holiday Card Exchange** among the Members is **December 6!!**

SOB Jamila Robinson has again taken on coordination of the mailing list this year by taking your names and snail-mail addresses if you send them to her at: **jamilaowilson1@gmail.com**, with the phrase **"2024 SOB Holiday Card Exchange mailing list"** in the "Subject:" field. She'll then organize the list and send it to all participants!

A few tips gleaned from previous years:

- The majority of participants want to receive their holiday greetings from you by snail-mail.
- You'll choose what sort of "greeting" you want to send out: Thanksgiving, Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanza, and/or New Year's.

If your holiday greeting is Sherlockian, great!! But if you use traditional format holiday cards, recipients will be just as happy to hear from you!!

- Not knowing yet who'll sign-up this year, the majority will be U.S. residents, but you might need a couple of international stamps ...

Continued on Page 3

Says Program Chair Sunny Even...

Continued from Page 1

...He was often opposed politically and socially as an interfering foreigner, and especially mocked in *Punch* magazine. (One must only recall Victoria's own antecedents to appreciate the irony). But Albert persevered. He was more appreciated by leaders in the arts and sciences as well as the working classes who welcomed his efforts for innovation and reform. His indefatigable efforts on behalf of The Great Exhibition (1851) were opposed at every step—in the Lords and Commons, by the press, and in committees and meetings. The Exhibition was of course an enormous success, championing British industry and design, while promoting free trade.

In the years 1846-1859 no one political party was dominant, and so the monarch played an especially influential role in the naming of prime ministers and formation of cabinets. Those were the years in which Albert played a central role as Victoria's private secretary and, in practice, as her co-monarch. Albert viewed the crown in a constitutional monarchy to stand above political party ("the right to be consulted, the right to encourage, and the right to warn"), so presumed a central cabinet role for monarchical advice independent of which party was in power. In effect he hoped to become more-or-less a permanent member of the cabinet in this way, but there was no mechanism to institutionalize it. So, while Britons honored him for his deep sense of duty, politicians continued to view their Queen's German husband as a foreign interloper.

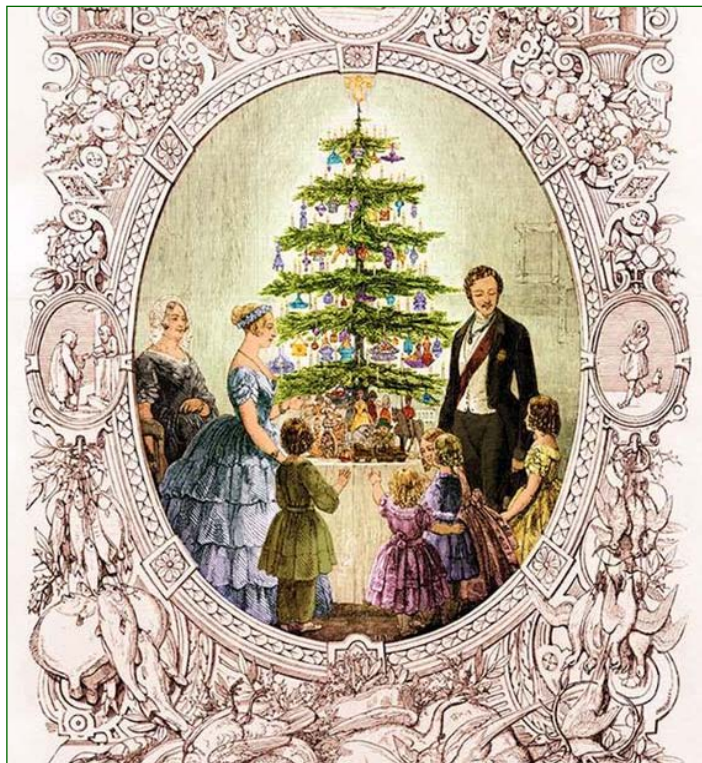
Albert was deeply involved in behind-the-scenes diplomacy with leaders and royal relatives in France, Prussia and Russia during the Crimean War. Albert also decisively intervened in British-American affairs over the seizing by a Union warship of Confederate envoys traveling to London and Paris aboard British mail packet *S.S. Trent*. Albert toned down Prime Minister Lord John Russell's outraged dispatch to Washington and helped maintain British neutrality in the American Civil War. (A suspenseful "what if" of the *Trent* affair figures in the latest Barker and Llewelyn novel [Death and Glory](#)—read it!)

Sadly, Prince Albert was more beloved in death than in life—his posthumous adulation overcame the political and social opposition he met in life. By the time widow Victoria returned to public life, her husband was recalled as Albert the Good, memorialized in statues, institutions, and place names. Prototypical Victorian themes to this day, such as the sanctity of the family and domestic values, as well as the importance of duty and earnestness, are all related to Albert's influence in Victoria's life.

"...and I ran off as hard as my feet would carry me to this man Breckinridge; ..."

An All-New Quiz on BLUE By: SOB Charlie Cook

1. Where was the hard felt hat?
2. What two words describe the hat?
3. Describe the linen of the hat!
4. In which Sherlockian collection do we find this tale?



Continued on Page 3

SOB Kris Hambrick's *Sherlock on Screen:* The Blue Carbuncle



Ed. Note: This paragraph has been updated! *In mid-October 2024 we had news that restoration of the Ellie Norwood films is being done by the British Film Institute. Apparently the first results of the project were just screened at the London Film Festival. Three of the films were presented as "Silent Sherlock, Three Classic Cases." Apparently all 45 shorts and two feature films are being restored. Now back to Kris...*

So, there you have it—there is a possibility that they will, one day, be seen again.

On to the Christmas Special before there were Christmas Specials! Which begs the question that the internet is not fighting about: Is "The Blue Carbuncle" a Christmas story?

One big mark against it is that it was originally published in *The Strand* in January. But that's merely one year and, at any rate, certainly it takes place near Christmas. No one dies--except the goose, but a goose dinner is classic Victorian Christmas fare. And after a brisk chase about the frozen streets of London, we end up back at Baker Street, with a guilty man shown mercy and an innocent man, one hopes, eventually set free.

But I think the chief reason it's considered a Christmas story is that we like having that tradition. Charles Dickens has forever imprinted the Victorian era as our Christmas aesthetic, and indeed the Granada film takes this even further by setting the date just *before* Christmas and upping the ante on John Horner's story, complete with a dramatic prison release on Christmas Eve. (That the original airdate was summer is odd, but beside the point... much like Bruce Willis' "Die Hard".)

But if you'd like to get really festive this season, I can recommend two other versions: the 1968 Peter Cushing BBC and the 1980 Belarusian production starring Algimantas Masiulis, both available on YouTube. Now, the latter is not subtitled, but the familiar plot points are easy to follow and they've added some truly bizarre elements such as a wandering chorus, a gang of colorful criminals, and Holmes himself singing while wearing a fez. Even without an official celebration of Christmas, this Soviet-era contribution manages to find the festive spirit of the time.



In the true spirit of the season, the BBC version actually grants Watson an observational acumen the original denies him: Instead of seeing nothing of consequence in Henry Baker's hat, Watson is actually able to determine a great many of the details previously derived by Holmes.

And I think the gift of a clever Watson is as good as any a Holmesian can ask for!

This Essay originally appeared in *Ineffable Twaddle* for December 2021. ★

The SOBs' 2024 Holiday Card Exchange!

Continued from Page 1

...that will cost you \$1.65 per ounce at the USPS; U.S. 1st class postage now runs \$0.73 per ounce.

- Jamila will put the mailing list together in a Word "label" set up...3 columns, 10 rows...which uses a 30-label sheet...if you have them!!
- Don't go to a lot of trouble! Just have some fun!

Happy Holidays
to you All! ★

An All-New Quiz on BLUE by: SOB Charlie Cook...

Continued from Page 2

Answers may be found on Page 7

5. What was written on the card tied to the left leg of the goose?
6. Why did Holmes criticize Watson after telling him he sees everything?
7. How did Holmes correct Peterson when the latter claimed he had a precious stone?
8. What was the name of the goose salesman at Covent Barden?
9. What did Holmes tell the owner of the bird that they did with his bird?
10. How did Holmes predict the quality of the beer at the Alpha Inn?
11. What was John Robinson's real name?
12. What was the name of "Robinson's" friend' name who served time in Pentonville? ★



“Miss Holmes” Opens at Federal Way’s Centerstage Theatre January 31, 2025

A dozen SOB Members were able to attend the closing performance of “Miss Holmes” at the TPS Center Theatre in Seattle in August. Perhaps we can gather another group of SOB’s Members to attend together again...on the same day? Perhaps a meal out together before or after?

Here’s their web link—[Miss Holmes – Centerstage Theatre Arts Conservatory](#)—and where you can read a summary of the plot of “Miss Holmes”, and get driving directions to the theatre!

Centerstage Theatre in Federal Way, WA will present “Miss Holmes” from January 31 to February 23, 2025.

Ticket are now available (updated from our previous announcements):

- ◇ Adult: \$38 in advance; \$41 at the door
- ◇ Senior (65+) & Military: \$33 in advance; \$31 at the door
- ◇ Student (22 and Under): \$15 in advance; \$18 at the door

The Theatre is located at 3200 SW Dash Point Rd, Federal Way, WA 98023 [(253) 661-1444].

Performances occur each Friday, Saturday & Sunday from Friday, January 31 through Sunday, February 23, 2025. Evening performances—on Friday & Saturday nights—begin at 7:30 p.m. Matinee performances—on Sunday afternoons—begin at 2:00 p.m.

The dates we are considering are:

- ◆ Friday evening, Jan. 31 (opening) or Sunday matinee, Feb. 2; or,
- ◆ Friday evening, Feb. 7 or Sunday matinee, Feb. 9; or,
- ◆ Friday evening, Feb. 21 or Sunday matinee, Feb. 23 (closing).

Please email your preference to Secretary Terri at: terri@soundofthebasketvilles.com by December 31, 2024



New Sherlockian Play Coming THIS Month in Marysville

By: SOB Webmaster Shannon Wallace

One of my library coworkers is in a play coming up in Marysville! Red Curtain Foundation Presents Mark Shanahan's play "A Sherlock Carol!"

Moriarty is dead, to begin with. And Sherlock Holmes is a haunted man. But, when a grown-up Tiny Tim asks Holmes to investigate the death of Ebenezer Scrooge, the Great Detective must use his gifts to solve a Dickens of a Christmas mystery! Six actors take on the beloved characters of Arthur Conan Doyle and Charles Dickens in this heartwarming and highly theatrical holiday treat for all ages!

■ Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2p.m., December 6 through 22, 2024. ★

<https://redcurtainfoundation.org/>

Red Curtain Foundation for the Arts
9315 State Ave. #J, Marysville, WA 98270

There is a service fee per ticket from \$1.45 (Child) to \$2.10 (Adult).



Tickets: (360) 322-7402, or
[Ludus - Red Curtain Foundation for the Arts](#)

Adults: \$25
Senior/Student/Military: \$20
Children: \$12

Entertainment Resources for Younger Sherlockians: Comics, Books, & Graphic Novels

By: SOB Beth Gallego

Source: Sherlock's SPOTLIGHT, Volume 5, Number 4 Autumn 2024

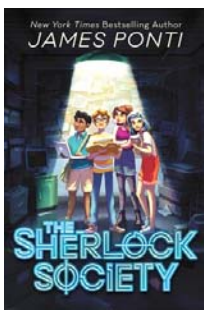
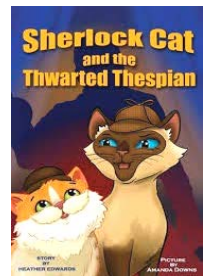


Beware the Blue Badoo, written by Karl Newson and illustrated by Andrea Stegmaier Published by Happy Yak, an imprint of the Quarto Group Recommended for: ages 3-7 (preschool - grade 2).

Welcome to Rumorville, but take care not to run into the Blue Badoo! What—or who—is the Blue Badoo? Everyone has a different scary idea to share. The young detective, notebook and magnifying glass in hand, is determined to find out the truth. With bouncy rhyming text, this picture book stands up to repeated readings with the youngest Sherlockians. There are lots of fun details in the busy, colorful illustrations—see if you can spot the Blue Badoo before the detective does.

Sherlock Cat and the Thwarted Thespian, written by Heather Edwards and illustrated by Amanda Downs Published by MX Publishing Recommended for: ages 8 to 12 (grades 3-7).

Sherlock Cat (known to the Man and the Lady as Spot) and Watson (AKA Fluffy) are back in action in the sequel to *Sherlock Cat and the Missing Mousie*. Neighbor cat Moriarty (AKA Jimmy) is nowhere to be seen, but there is a new feline in town: the beautiful Pretty Kitty, who prefers to be known as Irene. Expensive items have been going missing from her human's house, and she hopes Sherlock can help. Since the Man has recently taken up the violin, Sherlock and Watson have been looking for entertainment outside. They sneak into the local theatre, where an amateur production is in its final rehearsals, and it's a Sherlock Holmes play! While Watson gets a little more involved in the show than planned, Sherlock is sure that there is a mystery to be solved there, too. Charming black-and-white illustrations appear throughout the book, including a portrait of the lovely Miss Irene. There are plenty of references to the Canon to catch as the World's Greatest Cat Detective investigates the latest mysterious happenings.



The Sherlock Society, written by James Ponti Published by Aladdin, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Recommended for: ages 8 to 12 (grades 3-7).

Summer vacation has just begun, and Alex and Zoe Sherlock are looking for a way to make some extra cash. The trouble is that there aren't a lot of jobs available for kids aged 12 (Alex) and 13 (Zoe). During the school year, Alex and his friends Yadi and Lina make up the Sherlock Society, "the nerdiest club at Carver Middle" school in Miami, Florida. Zoe decides that instead of mowing lawns or baby-sitting during the summer, the Sherlock Society should

become real detectives and solve some mysteries. It will be interesting and put cash in their pockets. Their grandfather, a retired reporter, even has some unsolved cases in his files. A search for Al Capone's buried treasure takes them deep into the Everglades, where they discover evidence of an entirely different crime. As a team, they set out to trace a conspiracy to its source, determined to expose the criminals before it's too late. This is a fast-paced adventure that combines clever clue-solving with some dangerous activities in pursuit of those clues. A sequel is in the works, so keep an eye out for *Sherlock Society 2*. ★



The Beacon Society, a national Sherlockian-educational scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars, has now issued its newest installment of *Sherlock's Spotlight*—a Holmes gazette for younger Sherlockians.

Share *Sherlock's Spotlight* with children, grandchildren, students you may know (and, of course, their parents), as well as other society members, teachers, and anyone else you believe would enjoy the gazette or be able to share with younger Sherlockians.

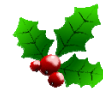
Sherlockians who would like to help us in this effort are welcome to provide us with stories, articles, artwork, etc., which is age-appropriate, for use in future issues.

To receive the gazette directly from us in the future, send your email address to mason.steve8080@gmail.com in order to be added to the emailing list. Any younger Sherlockian—under age 18—will have to provide a parent's or guardian's email address, who will also receive the emailings.

Editor: Steve Mason, BSI
The Beacon Society, Chair, Communications Committee

Final Results of the 2024 JHWS Annual Treasure Hunt!

Excerpted from John H Watson Society website ([The John H Watson Society – The Open and Inclusive Worldwide Online Sherlockian Society \(Really, We're about Having Fun\)](#)), posted 9/5/2024.



Oops! This got lost in the slush pile!

The 12th Annual John H. Watson Society Treasure Hunt has officially ended. Familiar names were among the leaders in four categories: U.S. and International individual entries, and U.S. and International groups.

One team had a perfect score of 192 submitted by **The Sound of the Baskervilles**, whose members were **Margie Deck, Naching Kassa, Cameron Brandon, and Steve Mason. ...**

The top scorer for U.S. teams was **Joanna Freeman** (188), who edged out Erica Fair (180), Regina Stinson, BSI (179), and reigning Hunt champion Michael Ellis (177), who answered all of the questions correctly but was unable to solve “the easiest cipher in Hunt history.”* Kristen Mertz and Tom Campbell also gave their best efforts.

The correct translation of the cipher was “Come Watson. Come. The game is afoot.” **Quizmaster Rich Krisciu-nas** said, “The thing that always amazes me is how many times someone comes up with an answer I didn’t foresee that fits. I go back and read the story and have to admit that the person deserves credit for their answer and my list of correct answers grows.”

The Hunt’s questions and answers will appear on our webpage by the end of the week.

* *The Boy-in-Buttons continues to have her doubts.*

Said PFL David’s missive (via E-Blast) to ALL SOB Members on 9/8/2024:



We have the results of the 2024 Treasure Hunt sponsored by The John H. Watson society. A salute to our team made up of Margie Deck, Naching Kassa, Cameron Brandon, and Steve Mason. Be sure to give them a salute, buy them a drink (non-alcoholic, of course), or do something to show them how proud we are of their success and perfection. **PFL David**

Noted Editor Terri:

We certainly CANNOT overlook the fact that, “The top scorer for U.S. teams was Joanna Freeman (188)...” — who has been a Seattle-area SOB Member since May 2020! *We need to add her to The SOB’s 2025 Hunt’s Team.*

Added Texas SOB Tim Kline, 9-8-2024:

Yes, I second (the) sentiments and say Congratulations to all winners! I belong to both The SOB’s and The Society’ Sherlock Holmes France, so I am happy they share the top spots as winners!!

Timothy Kline, Proud SOB, Proud French member

Added SOB Francis Bond (now of Czechia, formerly the Czech Republic), 9-8-2024

Please send my congratulations to the team!

Added SOB Roger Johnson, 9-8-2024

A perfect score? Capital! I'm not in a position to treat the winning team to a drink - even the non-alcoholic variety—but I send my sincere congratulations! **All best, Roger**,

Commissioning Editor, *The Sherlock Holmes Journal*, www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk



Added SOB Norman Foster, 9-8-2024

That’s an incredible accomplishment. Please forward my congratulations to Margie Deck, Naching Kassa, Cameron Brandon, and Steve Mason. To get a perfect score is amazing. **Norman**



Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

⇒ From our friend/former member **Stephanie Trasoff**: I wanted to share this with the SOBs. Maybe you all knew about this, but it is all new to me, and very interesting!

Take a look at these links: <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/cu-sith-scottish-folklore-black-dog> and [Death as a Dog: The Cù Sith of Scotland](#). “The spectral, terrifying dog of Scottish folklore has inspired many a nightmare for centuries—and likely for millennia.” I’m wondering whether most of Doyle’s readers would have been familiar with these tales; I would guess that Doyle would certainly have been.



⇒ PFL David notes these items:

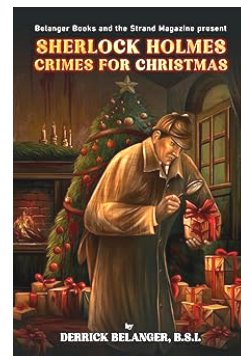
- Here’s a probable confirmation that we’ll have a Robert Downey, Jr. 3rd episode. [Robert Downey Jr.'s Sherlock Holmes 3 Will Avoid BBC's Sherlock Fatal Moriarty Mistake If It Happens](#). *Not Letting Go of Jim Moriarty Even After His Death Was Sherlock's Demise*. “If Robert Downey’s Sherlock Holmes 3 finally happens, it’s likely it will avoid the Moriarty mistake that ended up killing the BBC’s Sherlock. As Sherlock Holmes 3 continues to be a possibility, if it finally happens, it will definitely avoid the fatal Moriarty mistake that ruined the BBC’s Sherlock. Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes is one of the most popular literary characters, and as such, he has been adapted to all types of media for decades. The state of the rights to Sherlock Holmes has allowed many artists to make significant changes to the detective, his cases, and the rest of the characters, such as adapting them to the modern day.

- **Millie Bobby Brown will be back too?** Says one source: A third Enola Holmes movie is in the works at Netflix from the director of *Boiling Point*. Here’s what we know! [‘Enola Holmes 3’ Is On the Way from ‘Boiling Point’ Director](#).



- Here is the new preview to “Watson.” See the 90-sec. preview to the new TV show “Watson,” which is longer than the one we noted in the November issue of Twaddle: [‘Watson’ Trailer Sets Up Morris Chestnut-Led CBS Medical Drama](#).

- [Sherlock Holmes: Crimes for Christmas](#) by **Derrick Belanger (Author)**, PB, \$19.95, is an Advent Calendar of twelve all-new Sherlock Holmes adventures. “Sherlock Holmes: Crimes for Christmas” is a collection of new Sherlock Holmes stories to be read over the holiday season (i.e. from December 1 to December 26). Each is divided into two sections. The first day provides the case to the reader. The second day provides the ending. You get to think like Sherlock Holmes to see if you can solve the case before reading the thrilling conclusion.



- ⇒ From **Holly Turner**, Editor, *The SH Society of London’s District Messenger*:
- Here’s a ranking of Moriarty performances on screen: <https://screenrant.com/sherlock-holmes-moriarty-actors-moviesshows/>.
- Some further photos of location filming for “Young Sherlock” have been released. This time, the filming has taken place in a market town in Wales. Further information and the pictures can be found here: <https://www.walesonline.co.uk/lifestyle/tv/young-sherlocktv-crew-descends-30070646>
- ⇒ From **Peter Blau’s** newsletter, *Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press*: Registration is now open for “221B Con: A Fan Con For All Things Sherlock Holmes” in Atlanta, April 11-13, 2025. **More:** www.221bcon.com.



Answers To Cook’s Quiz on BLUE on Page 2:

1. On the back of the wooden chair beside the couch.
2. Seedy and disreputable.
3. Red silk, but a good deal discolored.
4. The Adventures.
5. Mrs. Henry Baker.
6. You fail to reason from what you see.
7. Holmes claimed he had THE precious stone.
8. Breckenridge.
9. That they ate it.
10. It should be excellent if it was as good as the goose.
11. James Ryder.
12. Maudsley.



The Sound
of the
Baskervilles

By appointment
of Her Majesty,
Queen Victoria

Ineffable Twaddle

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

President: David Haugen, PFL (david@soundofthebaskervilles.com)
Vice President: Kashena Konecki (VP@soundofthebaskervilles.com)
Treasurer: Melinda Michaelson (sobtreasurer1980@gmail.com)
Secretary/Editor: Terri Haugen (terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com)
Associate Editor: Lauren Messenger (laurenmessenger.museums@gmail.com)
Board Member Emeritus: Al Nelson (boardem@soundofthebaskervilles.com)
Program Manager: Sondra "Sunny" Even (sondraeven43@gmail.com)
Webmaster: Shannon Wallace (webmaster@soundofthebaskervilles.com)
Librarian: Chris "Bear" Berwald (SOB-Library@cberwald.com)
Sunshine Chair: Pat McIntosh (magnoliamci@centurylink.net)

Direct correspondence to:
6710 – 51st Street Court West
University Place, WA 98467-2287
Phone: 253-460-2753
Fax: 253-460-2753
Email: david@soundofthebaskervilles.com

The Game's Afoot — A Look at Sherlockian Games

By: SOB Tim Kline, Deckmate

Strap on your deerstalker and put your knowledge to the test with 52 trivia and game cards, each one featuring a multiple-choice trivia question, charade, game or challenge about the people, places of Sherlock Holmes classics.

Packed with trivia questions, party games, charades and challenges, and illustrated with Sidney Paget illustrations that make for a delightful game of Snap or Memory, there is something for everyone in this new series of quiz and game cards. Murder Party is only in a French edition at the present time.

A crime has been committed in the pleasant village of Bumble Town, where the great Sherlock Holmes spends his retirement...could it be the work of one of the inhabitants?

No mercy: Eliminate your opponents to glean as many clues as possible and win the game!

Six to 12 players including a Game Master 6 scenarios Challenge cards, suspects, victims and secret documents. Liven up a party with friends with this murder mystery party game that will take you casually through an evening or even a whole weekend!

The crime has been committed in Bumble, where the famous Sherlock Holmes now lives. To get to the bottom of the crime, you should collect as many clues as possible. But you can only get them from your fellow players by enticing them to do certain secret tasks for you!



Please Join Us!

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.

\$20 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 Master's Dinner" celebrating Holmes' birthday (January), "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, send your check for dues—\$20 for individuals, \$30 for families (U.S. funds only)—to the address shown at left.

Source: The Bilge Pump Vol. 12, No. 11, November, 2024, with permission. The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the Barque Lone Star founded November, 1970



Beaten's Christmas Annual Submissions Due by December 31!!



As we reminded you in the November 14 Hiatus Report, **now** is the time to get your submission to Beaten's started and completed. Your deadline for our magazine-style annual for-and-by-the Members is December 31, 2024!! Your subject might be Sherlockian, such as, what is your favorite adventure and why; or Victorian, what did people eat during that period; or mysteries, who else was solving puzzles at that time and how good were they.

If you have a topic selected and want to know if it would fit, please contact Terri. If you want to send in an illustration, other than for this year's cover, please contact Terri at terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com. **And, thanks!**