

## Re: etymology of "Sherlock" ; Conan Doyle

**Source:** <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2005-03/2255.html>

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**Date:** 03/16/05

Date: Wed, 16 Mar 2005 13:45:41 -0500

On 16 Mar 2005 10:39:19 -0800, Richard Fangnail  
<richardfangnail@excite.com> wrote in  
<news:1110998359.850534.285790@g14g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>  
in sci.lang:

> *"Sherlock" was apparently the name of a cricket player but I don't know*  
> *whether it was his first or last name. I wonder if it's derived from*  
> *Shylock.*

No. It was originally a byname for someone with very blond  
hair, ultimately from Old English <scír> 'bright, shining'  
and <locc> 'lock of hair'.

[...]

Brian