ESRC Festival of Social Science 2016
Piracy and Plymouth: privateering, profiting and policing

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Piracy and Plymouth: Privateering, Profiting and Policing

What is the difference between pirates, privateers and smugglers? 

Pirates and piracy hold an enduring fascination but who were the real life Jack Sparrows and Ann Bonny's - thriving, celibate or entrepreneurial privateers? Mixed-media presentations and hands-on activities will showcase the stories of piracy and smuggling through the ages across the globe and in the South West.

- What drove the men and women involved in piracy and what were the dangers and risks of being caught?
- What is the difference between pirates, privateers and smugglers?
- How do we understand what are the modern day equivalents of piracy and plunder?
- Is it border prospecting on the high seas or deep jungles, heritage crime or people smuggling?

Children can learn more about the role and lives of pirates by following an interactive Treasure Island hunt searching for clues amongst the exhibits and playing games to navigate their way through and find the treasure. Finishing in a Virtual Reality green room experience to give a sense of being on a real pirate ship and to speculate on marine resources at the bottom of the ocean.

This event is open to all and no booking is required.

Related events

- Policy: Piracy 1: The International Politics, Policies and Strategies Post 1939 Witness Seminar 10 September – 10.00 – 12.00
- Policy: Piracy 2: Modern Smuggling and Piracy in the South West Witness Seminar 10 September, 10.00 – 15.00

View this event profile on the ESRC Festival website