

## Filming for heritage

Want to consider filming for museums, or such heritage organisations as the National Trust or English Heritage? Perhaps you want to head for a career in documentaries – historic or natural history? Or maybe you'd like to dabble in television reporting? Either destination, this project will allow you to lead on the production of a 3-5 minute documentary that best tells the maritime stories you find most compelling, from the Cornish coastline. You will handpick the narratives you'd like to visually tell from our project researchers, and ensure the film is suitable for multiple online platforms. For instance, the film will need to be suitable for the project's online film library, its social media channels as well as featuring on the Churches Conservation Trust's Google Arts and Culture platform and the South West National Trust website. What's more, an exciting opportunity to pitch the film to local television and radio channels will be provided before Sat 14 March 2020, when we launch our series of 'floating lectures'. The opportunity will consist of joining project lead, Victoria Jenner, to launch your film and the ideas behind it, in a BBC Radio Cornwall interview. The film should therefore function as a probable contender for both radio and television, so considering the power of soundscape as well as drawing on a range of different visual techniques, should be considered.

Most importantly, you will also pioneer the project's methodologies for engaging with the outdoors. We want the film to be creatively interactive with the coastline – the historic landscape which you would be capturing. The aim of the film is to raise awareness of the 'untold stories' and encourage young people to use physical activity as a component of researching the historical environment. You may want to make use of the project's partnerships and future events that endorse kayaking, sea swimming, sailing and walking (amongst other coastal activities) and tell your stories from, quite literally, the perspective from the sea. This project is about people, and telling their stories that are so closely entwined with the Cornish coast and preserved in coastal graveyards – or even in the churches themselves. From those involved with smuggling, barbary piracy and naval conflicts to those more marginalised BAME narratives, there are an abundance of stories which can feed a particular theme or current political message that you would like to expose. This film should be cutting-edge and bold, using the project's archive of images, archive and manuscripts to evidence what you are saying.

### **More about the project...**

We are a HLF Young Roots project that started in January 2019. We have 10 case studies across Cornwall, in the form of maritime churches and have been pioneering methods of 'outdoor' research by encouraging all our researchers to explore the sea and its narratives associated with the churches, via mostly water sports and walking. We are now entering our next and final stage of the project which continues to use these methods of research, whilst disseminating them through film. We shall have a local film company to help guide you and offer support – both practical and theoretical, if needs be. We would like every church and a narrative associated with its maritime history to be captured in either one or a series of films. Our research on barbary piracy has already been featured in BBC Radio 4 and BBC Spotlight reports, so we suggest a report as the most suitable style (although we are open to another form of film, if it can demonstrate all our desired factors).

### **To bear in mind...**

Use our research wisely and to the full extent. We have oral history memory events going on simultaneously, involving the recording of local peoples' memories. Use these to think 'outside the box'. For instance, if you are interested in creating a more natural history report, think about the Torrey Canyon disaster of 1967 where 120,000 tons of crude oil was spilled following the oil tankers shipwreck. Moments like this have dramatically changed our landscape and the people who live there, impacting how they treat the church as a place of refuge. For this particular disaster, the church was used as a care centre for wildlife. We want you to find the

stories that interest you and make our project more emotive to humanity. Perhaps this is responding to recent news stories – from Brexit, or Greta Thunberg's environmental activism. Be creative!

**Take note of our events and academics...**

We have a 'floating lecture' series coming up in March, which will consist of academics talking about their research but quite literally from the sea. We are organising kayaking, sea swimming and walking events. Dr Jo Esra talks about Cornish captives being stolen from the coastline by North African pirates on a sailing boat whilst Dr David Gange (author of *The Frayed Atlantic Edge*) speaks of community stories he discovered whilst kayaking from Shetland to Cornwall.

**Helpful sources:**

<https://cornishmaritimechurches.co.uk/>

<https://www.downsouthpov.com/>

<http://cornishstory.com/cava/>