

Mudford Smugglers' Run Audio Trail Transcript

11. A WANTED MAN AND AN INCREDIBLE ESCAPE

LOVEY Looking for John Streeter, are you? Ain't everyone. After William Parrot shot and killed revenue officer William Allen at Mudford, Streeter's men fled. Getting hung for smuggling's rare, unless you're part of an armed gang, like many of them were that day. There's a reward of £100 if you hand John in. It's tempting in 'it?

JOHN Oi, none of that Lovey! Over here! It's me, John. Lovey's right, I had to flee. I wasn't in no armed gang but the treble fine on all me contraband goods would have ruined me – and my family. I couldn't have that. I stayed away, visiting my wife Rose and the children, when I could. I was so sure of meself, it came as a shock when I got caught and thrown into Winchester Gaol. But, like the Phoenix, my boat, I rise again and again...

LOVEY [Groans] Humble is his middle name.

JOHN Hush, girl! Fellow smuggler Henry White and I managed to escape Winchester Gaol.

LOVEY Did you fight you way out, all fists and kicks?

JOHN No. We moved a few loose bricks at the back of our cell's fireplace. Through that hole in the chimney, hanging by a rope, we escaped!

LOVEY Not quite the hanging the Sheriff wanted...

JOHN No, though the government did their very best to get what they really wanted, within weeks of the affray at Mudford...

LOVEY And what was that?

JOHN Let's journey onwards and see...