



Mudeford Smugglers' Run Audio Trail Transcript

12. GEORGE ROSE, SANDHILLS AND THE KING'S ARMS HOTEL

[Sound of quill upon paper]

GEORGE ROSE Dear Prime Minister William Pitt, As your chief financial advisor, Secretary to the Treasury, senior politician and, as a local man building my new house in Mudeford, a hamlet riddled with smugglers, I fervently advise to take one simple measure that, I guarantee, will decrease smuggling ten-fold. My vision is thus: reduce the customs duty on tea to 12 and ½ percent.

This will render the smuggling of tea immediately unprofitable and, as the smuggler's profits plummet, the quality of those frequenting coastal areas will rise, along with the government's profits from reputable businesses.

I close with an invitation: it would be an honour to host you for a sojourn at my soon-to-be completed new home, Sandhills, here in Mudeford. It will be a very pleasant bathing place for dignitaries and the most influential of people. Your most humble and obedient servant, George Rose.

P.S. I have plenty of fine French Brandy and gin in my reserves, should that further tempt you to visit.

Oh and P.P.S. Completely separate from my role as financial advisor, now truly is a very good time to invest in properties in Mudeford. Or, at least it will be, if you go ahead with the proposed scheme to deter smugglers.