



## Who are the Suspects in Sea Chest Secret?

The seven suspects in Sea Chest Secret are historical figures or fictional characters based around people who sailed during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.



**Joseph Billings**

Joseph Billings is an historic person who sailed on HMS *Discovery* as able seaman and then with James Cook on the sister ship HMS *Resolution* II as midshipman and assistant to William Bayly - the astronomer on board. He later joined the Russian Navy and commanded an exploratory expedition to north eastern Asia for Empress Catherine in 1785.



**David Nelson**

David Nelson is an historic person who sailed with James Cook on HMS *Resolution* II and with William Bligh on HMS *Bounty* as a botanist. He accompanied Bligh in the HMS *Bounty* launch after the mutiny and was well liked by Cook and Bligh. See *Naturalists On Board* and *Botany Bound* support notes for more information.



**Sydney Parkinson**

Sydney Parkinson is an historic person who sailed with James Cook on HMB *Endeavour* as a naturalist and landscape artist. He died in Batavia at the age of 26 when HMB *Endeavour* was on its return journey to the United Kingdom. See *Artists and Illustrators* support notes for more information.



### **Sally Peel**

Sally Peel is a fictitious character based on the few females who sailed on ships during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Females were often employed as medical assistants on warships and merchant ships, while some fought as soldiers and warriors. See *Women On Board* support notes for more information.



### **Sun Peng**

Sun Peng is a fictitious character based on Asian voyagers who sailed mainly on merchant fleets during this time. See *Non-European Voyagers* support notes for more information.



### **Sam Perkins**

Sam Perkins is a fictitious character based on cabin boys who frequently sailed on exploratory and merchant ships. Cabin boys were usually personal servants to the Captain or other high ranking officers as well as having general duties. Boys in their early teens were recruited or volunteered for duty at sea. They usually trained as apprentices to become sailors. Boys trained in the Marine Society before going to sea were taught to read and write and basic navigational skills. See *the Life of a Boy on a Ship* support notes for more information.



### **Society Pete**

Society Pete is a fictitious character based on the historic Society Islander Omai, who sailed with James Cook on HMS *Resolution* I and II. Omai acted as Cook's interpreter and cultural adviser and was received by the King of England before returning to his home in the Society Islands. See *Non-European Voyagers* support notes for more information about Omai.