



Tresco's best kept secret...

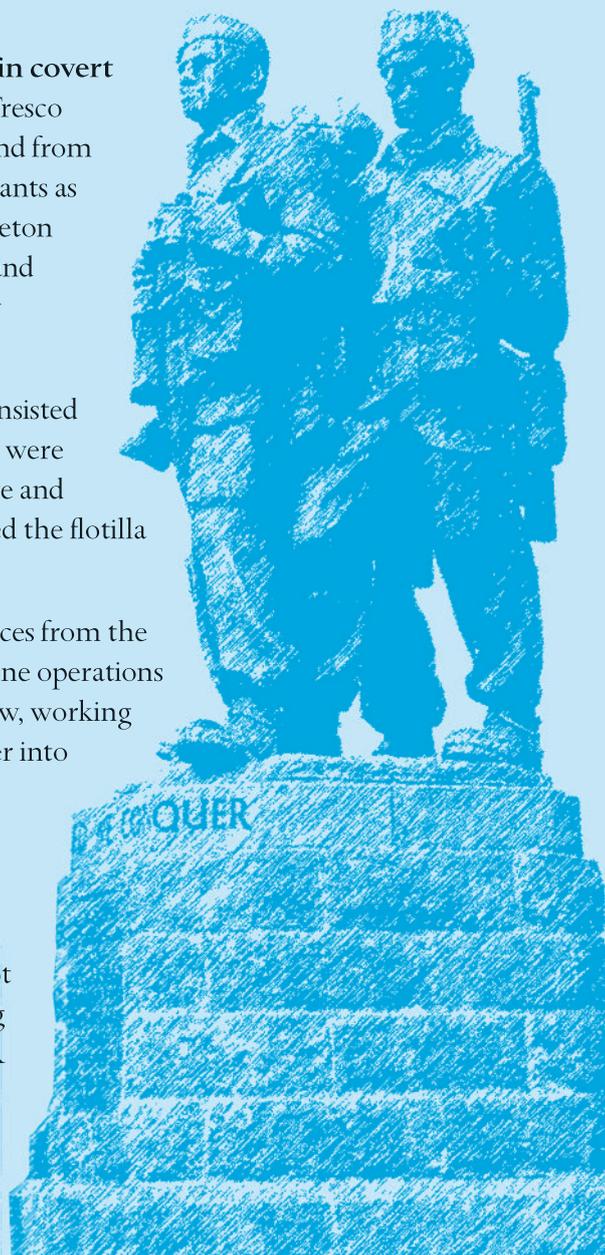


Many visitors to Tresco are unaware of the island's vital role in covert espionage during World War II. The captivating tranquillity of Tresco belies its history of secret intelligence operations taking agents to and from the coast of occupied Brittany. Still referred to by the older inhabitants as the 'mystery boats', fishing vessels disguised in typical colourful Breton livery plied back and forth across the Channel carrying saboteurs and gathering intelligence, which was to prove invaluable in the D-Day invasion of France.

The heroic crews, dressed in the casual rig of Breton fishermen, consisted of Special Forces RN and RNVR officers and men. Alongside them were several Breton and French sailors. These brave people risked torture and execution if caught by the Nazis. When extra fire-power was needed the flotilla was reinforced by Royal Navy MTBs or motor gunboats.

Author MIKE WILLIAMS, a former member of Naval Special Forces from the Cold War era, weaves a thrilling story around the real-life clandestine operations of Tresco's secret flotilla. Lieutenant Richard Tremayne and his crew, working closely with SOE and the Secret Intelligence Service, take the reader into the U-boat-infested waters of the English Channel, the dangerous coastal waters of Brittany – and beyond – on espionage and counter-intelligence operations.

Mike Williams served eight years both full time and as a reservist, first in the Royal Navy [Intelligence] as a Russian-speaking intercept operator, then in the Royal Marines [SBS and Commando], ending as Second-in-Command of a combined SBS and Commando RMR unit. He and his wife, Brenda, live in Wiltshire and regularly go hill-walking and canoeing in the Isles of Scilly. Their last visit was in June 2011 and they are already planning their next return trip!



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These books are fictional accounts based on true events, written by MIKE WILLIAMS, who was himself involved in clandestine operations.

The Secret Channel

ISBN: 978-185418-6126

A war of intrigue, covert operations, spies, intelligence gathering and daring was being fought in the English Channel. Under great secrecy an elite force courageously kept open secret channels, between England and France. The SBO was central to British Naval strategy and planning which operated in a secret and dangerous world at a time when Churchill demanded that 'we set Europe ablaze'. The SBO's ingenuity, indomitable spirit, loyalty and success was a major factor in the final success of the invasion of Europe by Allied force.

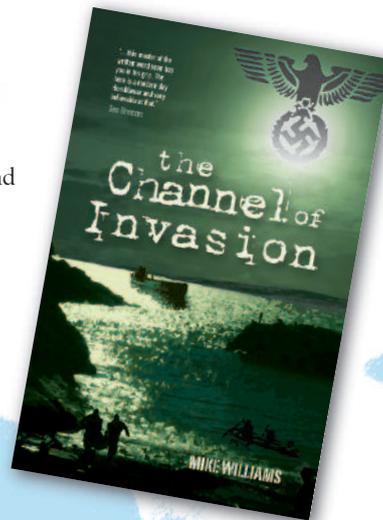
The Channel of Invasion

ISBN: 978-185418-6386

Part two sees a hidden and brutal war of subterfuge, stealth and deception being waged along the English Channel and the Brittany coast. British Intelligence has cracked the Enigma Code and Allied forces have, for a short time, inflicted heavy losses on the U-boat Wolf-packs preying on shipping in the English Channel – until now.

Plans are also well advanced for the invasion of Normandy. Richard Tremayne, the Flotilla Commander of a clandestine Special Force Naval unit operating from the rugged coastline of the Scilly Isles, is once more in the thick of it.

A soul-stirring tale of heroism, courage and sacrifice from the 'small boat men' who gave so much in the protection of our coasts and helped liberate France.



The Channel to Freedom

ISBN: 978-185418-6898

The third part of this trilogy covers the part played in the Second World War by this ultra-secret unit from D-Day until the end of the war in Europe.

As the war moves to its climax, the Germans become ever more desperate to regain lost ground. In operations demanding the highest levels of courage and personal daring, Lieutenant Commander Richard Tremayne's specialist experience is called upon to counter new German threats. Advanced enemy technology, providing them with battlefield advantages over the Allies, becomes one of his major targets. Impossible timescales and the most terrifying personal threat add to the drama of the situation.

Leading his highly trained team, Tremayne fights on land and at sea, ranging around Europe from the Kattegat to the east coast of Ireland and to the Mediterranean islands off Toulon, as well as his familiar battlegrounds of Brittany. Such covert operations, sometimes straying into neutral waters, place intense political pressures on Tremayne, demanding from him the utmost sensitivity – as well as results.

PRAISE FOR THE TRILOGY

"Mike Williams' own experience with the Special Forces shines through as he skillfully spins an exciting tale around the true story."

RICHARD BARBER, AUTHOR OF 'THE LAST PIECE OF ENGLAND' AND EDITOR OF THE TRESKO TIMES

"We owe Mike Williams a great debt for bringing this forgotten story alive. This is a great story – an important one – and is very well told, as it deserves to be."

GEOFFREY TILL, PROFESSOR MARITIME STUDIES, KING'S COLLEGE LONDON AND DIRECTOR OF THE CORBETT CENTRE FOR MARITIME POLICY STUDIES

"This thrilling tale is based on true events – with characters that live on the pages."

THE SEA

"Mike Williams takes the reader on an exciting journey across the black waters of the English Channel."

BRITAIN AT WAR

"...this master of the written word soon has you in his grip. The hero is a modern day Hornblower and very believable at that."

SEA BREEZES MAGAZINE

".... a great read about the operation of the SBS... It is a must for anyone who served in the RN and RM."

KEITH RAYNER, EDITOR OF ONWARD, THE NEWSLETTER FOR HMS FLEETWOOD

"Mike Williams' lets you imagine the dangerous waters and desperate time in which the men and women lived – and sometimes lost – their lives in this thrilling fictional account of true events."

HOMEPORT MAGAZINE

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