Wild Cornwall

Cornwall as a Landscape for adventure in the writing of Percy F Westerman
Background

* The Flying Submarine 1912
* The Quest of the Golden Hope 1912
* Rival Submarines 1913
* The Scouts of Seal Island 1913
* Sea Scouts of the Petrel 1914
* The Submarine Hunters 1918
* The Pirate Submarine 1923
* Missing Believed Lost 1949
* Working their Passage 1951
Exterior landscape
Challenges of interaction with the natural world

“we dwell always in two landscapes internal and external and ... stories bring those two together”

Interior landscape
Character
Initiative
Resourcefulness

**The Wider Picture**

19th century – exotic in far away places of empire
* Adventure
* Mystery
* The unfamiliar
* The unknown
* Foreign-ness

20th century – exotic drawn closer to the centre
* “Domestic orientalism”
The Wider Picture: Wild Cornwall

- Cornwall fulfils the need for wild otherness, a sense of remoteness from the ‘civilized’ centre.

- Cornish coast, wild seas, wild rocks, rough coastline emphasised in all these titles notably

  - Scouts of Seal Island
  - Sea Scouts of the Petrel
  - Submarine Hunters
Cornwall real and imagined

“girt iron fence”
The Flying Submarine p. 29
What does Cornwall represent as landscape for adventure?

- The unknown
- The remote
- Danger brought closer to the centre (home)
- The exotic in domestic space
- The unfamiliar and threatening aspects of the internal landscape
Wild Cornwall 2014
Charity calendar

Including ‘what to see’ wildlife species of the month

Dr Rachel Johnson
Wareham February 2014