

The Living Memory Lab

Introduction to DVD

Up until the 200th anniversary of the act to abolish slavery in 2007, Plymouth was not in touch with its history. Not as the unofficial birthplace of the English slave trade nor as a catalyst for change in the abolition movement. Most Plymouthian's were unaware that Plymouth had any connection with this brutal enterprise and few had ever been taught about it at school.

This innovative project explores the transatlantic slave trade, its abolition and legacy through film. The Living Memory Lab ran twenty-five short training courses to help total beginners, young and old, produce a short film. Many of these explore how people feel about slavery. As a result, some of the content is subjective and not necessarily accurate. However, we have included four films produced by BBC SW, which can be used as factual information, along with many others, which have been rigorously researched.

Below listed are all the films on the Living Memory Lab DVD with a brief description of each one. The majority are suitable for school children. We have identified some films that we feel may be unsuitable but we would recommend that you view any film before your training session or screening to ensure the content is appropriate for the audience. The majority of films are between two and four minutes long. There are some however, that run to eight minutes in length. This resource is free and aimed at community groups, teachers and diversity trainers.

The Plymouth and District Racial Equality Council does not necessarily share the views expressed in the films.

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Film listings

The Transatlantic Slave Trade

3 Tales from Trinidad and Tobago by Recardo McDowell

Running time: 06:15

This entertaining short re-enacts **three stories of Caribbean folklore** told to the filmmaker by his father. This film focuses on **slaves getting their revenge** on their masters.

Tell me more? By Ryan Huws

Running time: 04:41

A short report examining **the influence the slave trade has had on the city of Plymouth**. The reporter asks local residents if they are aware that Sir John Hawkins and Sir Francis Drake were the first merchants and men of standing to trade slaves in the UK.

Captured Silence by Shanelle Heaney

Running time: 03:02

Powerful and **abstract short film focusing on slavery in America.**

Contains some good factual information about the slave trade then and now however, it does detail some of the ways slaves were tortured/punished which some viewers may find upsetting. Visually this film experiments with the idea of black people being powerless and without a voice. Uses illustrations of slavery to convey the horror. **Not suitable for young children.**

Kids as Cargo by Eggbuckland Community College

Running time: 08:08

This mini documentary looks at the **trafficking of children** starting with the **Transatlantic Slave Trade and bringing it right up to date.** It explores not only the physical impact on children crossing the middle passage but also how it would impact on their mental health. Students draw on the accounts of Olaudah Equiano 1745-1797 (an African writer and former slave) and conduct an experiment of their own.

The Story of Britain by Belinda Dixon

Running time: 02:17

A **middle-aged woman** explores **what she was taught about the Transatlantic Slave Trade at school.** She muses on the information she was given about Drake and Hawkins and how we now have a better understanding of the complexity of the history of the slave trade.

Slavery in Plymouth by Duncan Ferguson

Running time: 03:12

A digital story examining **the role Plymouth** played in the history of the slave trade and the impact it's had on the city and its people.

Slavery – The ignorance of man by Marianne Blosche

Running time: 08:25

Dictionary definitions combined with illustrations take us on a **filmic journey through ideas and concepts associated with slavery** including liberty, abolition, victory, equality, race and yoke.

What's that got to do with me? By Estover Community College

Running time: 07:41

Young students get to grips with how slavery impacts on their lives. Report examining the role Plymouth played in the transatlantic slave trade touching on both slavery and abolition. Sir John Hawkins comes back from the grave and explains the benefits of slavery and Thomas Clarkson recalls his visit to The Seven Stars public house in Tamerton Foliot on a fact-finding trip for the abolitionists. The film concludes by examining the way slavery links to fair trade.

The Slave Trade Poem by Shellie Gould

Running time: 02:27

This film contains a **poem that follows the capture of girl slave in West Africa** through her arduous journey. Performed by the Shellie Gould, a promising young poet from Plymouth.

A poem of remembrance by Amber Richards

Running time: 01:27

A short **poem remembering the victims of slavery** accompanied by music performed by Amber Richards and her brother the rapper J. Reaper.

Advocating Abolition by Joanne Gardner

Running time: 02:36

Digital story in which a young woman **describes how she felt finally learning the facts about slavery** and the impact this history has on all our lives regardless of the colour of our skin.

Sensing slavery by Sarah Dewar

Running time: 01:53

Digital story exploring the experience of a **slave held in the hold of a ship** in a UK harbour. Sarah tries to second-guess how the **experience of slavery would be interpreted through the senses** influenced by the captive's cultural perspective.

Human Cargo by SCOPE PLYMOUTH

Running time: 04:27

Animation looking at what it means to be a slave on the **middle passage** and to be treated as **cargo**. It uses the illustration of the Brookes as a starting point. This film was funded by the Highbury Trust and included in this collection as an added extra.

Slaves' story by Sophie Palmer-Still

Running time: 02:43

Digital story incorporating **extracts of slaves own accounts** of the experience of capture, transportation and punishment.

The slaves of Africa by Lweendo Ndawana

Running time: 02:18

Young Lweendo from Zambia has used **his own illustrations** to tell the story of slavery as he sees it.

Drake's Drum by Karen Evans

Running time: 04:35

A digital story exploring the **sights and sounds of slavery**. The journey starts at Drake's Drum in the centre of Plymouth then to West Africa onto the Caribbean and back to Plymouth. This short is a vivid experiment cutting **pictures with powerful and evocative sound effects**.

They did it for the money by Nigel Wallser

Running time: 01:41

Another powerful contribution from SCOPE in Plymouth. This film looks at the **motivation** behind slavery and **shapes it into a poem accompanied by music**.

Looking Back Looking Forward by Adam Milford

Running time: 02:40

Prior to the anniversary to mark the act to abolish slavery in 2007, the transatlantic slave trade did not feature in Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery's outreach programme. **This film explores what the museum has developed to help the community better understand this period in history including a peek into their slavery and abolition resource box.** Find out what the Museum can offer your school or community group by watching this film.

Freedoms' Lost by Hannah Deakin

Running time: 04:00

Poem exploring **slavery and abolition from a Plymouth perspective**. This digital story includes many striking images of the city and its seafront.

BBC Spotlight – the first trader by John Danks

Running time: 03:38

First in a series of four films from BBC South West. A short report examining the role **Sir John Hawkins played in the transatlantic slave trade** giving details of his first voyage.

BBC Spotlight – a legacy of wealth by John Danks

Running time: 03:36

This feature gives a flavour of the **riches brought to the local economy by the transatlantic slave trade**. Gives details of two local families that owned plantations and an idea of the wealth gained from such an enterprise. Also touches on the churches involvement in slavery.

BBC Spotlight – the Abolition movement by John Danks

Running time: 03:15

This report highlights the role played by the city in the abolition movement. From Clarkson's first visit to Plymouth in 1787, to the production of the Brookes image and its importance as a powerful piece of political propaganda. It also looks at how the ideas behind slavery resonate in our community today and the changes that are needed to move on.

BBC Spotlight – the Navy's role by John Danks

Running time: 02:19

This **report examines the Royal Navy's role after Abolition**. It was tasked to police the Atlantic to catch slave ships and their crew. **It looks at conditions on board ship for both sailors and slaves**. It also highlights the casualties the British Navy endured to help bring slavery to an end.

Creator by Summer Grieve-Knight

Running time: 01:41

Curious and creative digital story with a **poem** at its centre written from the perspective of a **sea captain who has been trading slaves**. **It explores the**

guilt he suffers as a consequence of his actions. This film was made by a **young person** and is the only film in our collection that examines the feelings of a perpetrator.

Milly by Timo

Running time: 03:16

Music video produced by local musician Timo. The track speaks of slavery and the possible solutions needed to make the world a more peaceful place.

The Abolition of Slavery

Brookes by David Squires

Running time: 02:17

Stop start animation focusing on the image generated in Plymouth of the cross section of a slave ship 'the Brookes'. An image that was to become one of the most **powerful tools used by the abolitionists**.

The Draughtsman's Dilemma by Coombe Dean School

Running time: 08:18

Entertaining period drama that introduces all the Plymouthians who fought to abolish slavery and **explores how the Brookes diagram was commissioned**. The draughtsman who produced the diagram is unknown and for dramatic purposes has been called Mr John Blake. This film imagines how he may have felt and the circumstances leading up to this commission. The Draughtsman's Dilemma is probably the only representation in film of this little known piece of local history.

Getting in the way by Hayley Kemp

Running time: 05:20

A film that thoroughly **explores the important role the Quakers played in the abolition movement**. This film was made by local people from the Quaker community and contains many images owned by the Quakers.

Advocating Abolition by Joanne Gardner

Running time: 02:36

See the Transatlantic Slave Trade listings

Slavery and Religion

Faith and Freedom by Jane Atwill

Running time: 03:34

This film investigates the part **religion played in the transatlantic slave trade** with emphasis on the Methodists and Quakers.

Getting in the way by Hayley Kemp

Running time: 05:21

See the Abolition of Slavery listings

Slavery and the modern world

Sugarcane by Danovan Knott

Running time: 02:53

In this short film a **Rastafarian** man living in Plymouth talks about how the **sugar industry still exploits people** and the impact it has had on his family. This film is one of the few contributions made by a **slave descendant**. Contains footage of life in Jamaica.

Slave to fashion by Salah Ullah

Running time: 03:30

The fashion industry is under the spotlight in this digital story. A **young man** with roots in Bangladesh **looks at how the rag trade ruins the lives of children in Asia**. He also highlights how not having the right clothes can lead to bullying at school.

Flesh and Stone by Howard Nowlan

Running time: 02:53

Film looking at slavery today in the shape of the coco industry. This short gives statistics and an overview of the trafficking of women and children. It also **touches on what motivates an individual to get involved in volunteering/campaigning to stop modern slavery**.

The Forgiven by Jim Wiltshire

Running time: 04:46

Atmospheric look at slavery in World War II. A short shot in the concentration camp, Ravensbrueck in Germany. The film uses an interview with Corrie Ten Boom, a former prisoner, to narrate the story.

Sweatshop by Joanne Gray

Running time: 02:48

This film was made by a member of the **education team at Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery** and explores a project that was run to mark the 200th anniversary of the Act to abolish slavery. The film focuses on an **installation** by artist Lisa Cheung, **a mobile sweatshop, that enables community groups and members of the public to explore consumerism and cheap labour** the film also looks at the impact such exhibitions have.

We cannot hide behind ignorance any longer by Donna Hanns

Running time: 02:35

A community outreach worker from Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery **looks at how slavery affects her world**.

Pick a bale of cotton by Karen Smitham

Running time: 03:34

A digital story from another resident of Scope Plymouth. **A look at the rag trade and the real price of cheap clothes** with a focus on the cotton industry.

Modern Slavery and Women

Quiet by Izaskun Arandia

Running time: 04:47

Disturbing mini drama about the experiences of an eastern European woman forced into prostitution. Contains mild violence and some swear words and is not appropriate for primary school children.

India's women – the unknown story by an anonymous film maker

Running time: 02:34

An anonymous woman from Kashmir talks about the various ways she believes women are oppressed and treated as slaves in her country, from **aborting baby girls, child prostitution, dowry crime, domestic abuse to sati** (where widowed women voluntarily or by force are burnt on their husband's funeral pyre). Not appropriate for primary school children.

In the name of my daughter by Roya Rafati

Running time: 03:34

This digital story explores the practise of **honor killing and is presented by the film maker.** Honor crimes are acts of violence, usually murder, committed by male family members against female family members, who are held to have brought dishonor upon the family. Not appropriate for primary school children.

The capture of Maria Stefanijak by Panni Szokai

Running time: 02:38

First in a series of three fictional films. These films are stand-alone or can be used as a trilogy. **Short film showing the abduction of a young woman from Eastern Europe for the sex industry in Britain.** This film is a good introduction to the idea of trafficking.

Maria Stefanijak by Jim Wiltshire

Running time: 05:09

Second in a series of three. This film explores the **day-to-day life of a prostitute**, Maria Stefanijak, a young woman who is speech impaired and drug dependant. **Contains some references to sex and sexual practise.** Not appropriate for primary school children.

The release of Maria Stefanijak by Panni Szokai

Running time: 03:40

Third short in the series of three films. Finally prostitute Maria finds release from her captures and escapes from sex slavery. Not appropriate for primary school children.

Maria Maria by Naomi Hancock

Running time: 04:44

Digital story about a **young girl press-ganged into prostitution**. Not appropriate for primary school children.

Road to Nowhere by Farshad Yousefi

Running time: 02:34

This film was made by an Iranian refugee. This digital story contains views on the **oppression of women in Iran**. It also explores the trafficking of women. Not appropriate for primary school children.

Slavery and refugees/asylum seekers

Fighting to survive by Omar Ali

Running time: 03:08

Kurdish refugee Omar describes how the **process of seeking asylum** feels like the experience of being a slave. **This film contains images of death and violence and is not suitable for children.**

Boxed In by Lipson Community College

Running time: 06:46

Unusual and touching film about the how seeking asylum is like a modern day form of slavery. Contains much factual information about the transatlantic slave trade and has **candid interviews with school children** from Lipson Community College about racism. Visually very interesting. Not suitable for primary school children.

People like you by Chris Hancock

Running time: 03:59

Film exploring the **similarities** between the **experience of asylum and slavery**. **Contains powerful images of refugees by photographer Diana Matar.** The film focuses in on Abdul a **failed asylum seeker** in Plymouth and contains some drawings by him.

Modern day slavery by Theresa Brooks

Running time: 04:09

A film detailing the way **unaccompanied asylum seeker children** are treated when they **arrive in the UK**. Hears the views of a social worker outlining all the **difficulties** they face.

Road to nowhere by Farshad Yousefi

Running time: 02:34

See Women and slavery listings

My Persia by Mohammad Kemali

Running time: 03:17

Digital story looking at **agricultural oppression in Iran** and how changes in the law improved the rights of farmers.

The Anti-slavery superpower by Mohamad Naseh

Running time: 03:30

An interesting look at the life and legacy of the **Persian Emperor Cyrus the Great**, 600BC to 576BC. He was the founder of the Persian Empire and famous for his tolerance and **anti-slavery philosophy**.

Legacy of the slave Trade

Baroness Caroline Cox interview by Jim Wiltshire and Richard Smith

Running time: 05:38

Baroness Cox has worked to improve human rights in many countries. She has written about her experiences of modern slavery in her book "This Immoral Trade". She has also received the Wilberforce Forum Award for her work.

Legacy of Dance by Emma Sherriff

Running time: 03:21

Film exploring the **links between modern dance and its roots in Africa**. Highlights its role as a form of expression in times of oppression.

Silver Lining by Abimbola Alao

Running time: 02:49

Nigerian writer and workshop leader examines the Transatlantic Slave Trade from an **African perspective**. Highlighting the way **arts and crafts** were exported alongside slavery from sweet grass basketry to storytelling.

The Legendary tale of Paul and Virginie by Isabelle Furby

Running time: 03:14

Entertaining re-enactment of the tale of Paul and Virginie. Paul et Virginie is a novel by Jacques-Henri Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, first published in 1787 and is the **Mauritian version of Romeo and Juliet**. A story of two lovers whose social standing and **skin colour kept them apart**.

Why how who what when? by Charlotte Gunn

Running time: 02:12

In this short a **white middle-aged woman with Irish and Scottish roots looks at prejudice**. Explores ideas of identity and belonging.

Discrimination prohibited by Luke Thorne

Running time: 02:27

A **young person with disabilities** talks about **prejudice** from his point of view and identifies what more people can do to support people with disabilities.

Inequalities in Brazilian Education by Sylvia do Rego

Running time: 03:53

A short film looking at the impact slavery has had on Brazilian culture and the **inequalities in accessing education for the black population**.

What is Racism? By the Barbican Theatre

Running time: 07:15

Vox-pop with **young people** from Collective Voices and Strange Younguns talking about **what racism means to them**.

How does Racism feel? By the Barbican Theatre

Running time: 08:13

Second **vox-pop** in a series of three describing **how racism feels**. Candid contributions from **young people** of all colours. Taken from interviews with individuals from Collective Voices and Strange Younguns.

What can we do about Racism? By the Barbican Theatre

Running time: 04:59

Final **vox-pop** in a series of three. In this feature young people look at how we can tackle racism. Featuring young people from Collective Voices and Strange Younguns.

For the love of Barrie by Beverley Griffiths

Running time: 06:21

A **mixed heritage grandmother** looks at her life growing up in Barry Island. She **talks openly about her identity and childhood**.

Tie-dyed by Vanessa Crosse

Running time: 02:34

A short film produced by a middle-aged woman of **mixed heritage** who looks **back at her childhood in the sixties** and talks about the difficulties her parents faced as a mixed couple.

African Queens by Dienka Hines

Running time: 02:46

In this digital story a woman in her **twenties explores her mixed heritage** identity and describes her feelings through poetry.

Brown Baby by Fiona Evans

Running time: 02:55

A **white mother** whose **child is of mixed heritage** talks about her baby's identity and her fears for the future. Digital story with the narrative in the form of a letter.

Films exploring identity

For the love of Barrie by Beverley Griffiths

Running time: 06:21

See *legacy of slavery listings*

Tie-dyed by Vanessa Crosse

Running time: 02:34

See *legacy of slavery listings*

African Queens by Dienka Hines

Running time: 02:46

See *legacy of slavery listings*

Brown Baby by Fiona Evans

Running time: 02:55

See *legacy of slavery listings*

Slavery and Abolition for another angle

Drake's Drum by Karen Evans

Running time: 04:35

See *The Transatlantic Slave Trade listings*

Maybe by Peter Davey

Running time: 03:50

Abstract digital story accompanied by music exploring ideas of capture, loss and freedom.

Freedoms' Lost by Hannah Deakin

Running time: 04:00

See *The Transatlantic Slave Trade listings*

Creator by Summer Grieve-Knight

Running time: 04:41

See *The Transatlantic Slave Trade listings*

Human Cargo by SCOPE

Running time: 04:27

See *The Transatlantic Slave Trade listings*

The Slave Trade poem by Shellie Gould

Running time: 02:27

See *The Transatlantic Slave Trade listings*

A poem of remembrance by Amber Richards

Running time: 01:27

See *The Transatlantic Slave Trade listings*

Then and Now by Jake Paget

Running time: 02:43

A young art student explores modern slavery in this abstract digital story.

Milly by Timo

Running time: 03:16

See *The Transatlantic Slave Trade listings*

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Anti-Slavery International
Stop the Traffik
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The British Museum
The British Empire & Commonwealth Museum
BBC Picture Library
Plymouth and West Devon Record Office
Bristol Record Office
The National Portrait Gallery
Adam Milford and Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery
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African Footprint International
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Lipson Community College
Lipson Acting up Drama Club
Lipson Community College Dance Club
City College Plymouth
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Totally Crackers
Street factory
Beatbreakers
Collective Voices
Strange Younguns
Ben Woolvin
Andy Breare
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David Oddie
Ben Isbell
Kevin Smith
Andy Blackwell
Awusi Michell
Matthew Furby
Camille Dalais
Joel Dalais
Chukumeka Maxwell
Sanjay Sharma
PMCH youth group
Maniac Films
The Seven Stars public house

Eggbuckland Church
Plymouth Music Zone
Costa Coffee
Plymouth Cooperative
People of Belmont Jamaica
Frome Sugar Factory, Westmoreland, Jamaica

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