



By The Minstead Trust, 16th Sept 2024



Once upon a time, there was a lively boy called Jim Hawkins who looked after his parent's pub after they died at sea. It was hard work but he enjoyed meeting the colourful characters who came in.

One day, as Jim was chatting to his best friend Doctor Libby, an old sailor called Billy Bones burst through the door. He was renting a room above the pub, so Jim and Libby knew him quite well. He said that some pirates had been looking for him, and he was worried that they might have put the 'black spot' on him. That was a pirate curse, which Billy said would mean he was doomed. When he turned round, Jim saw he had a black spot on his back!

Billy realised the pirates had found him. Reaching into a pocket, he drew out a Treasure Map. That's what the pirates were looking for – and Billy decided that since he was doomed anyway, he would give it to Jim. Suddenly the Black Spot seemed to start working and poor Billy staggered off and met a grisly end. In the confusion, Jim and Libby didn't notice a well-dressed sailor come into the pub and sit in the corner.

Jim and Libby were very excited about finding the Treasure, although they weren't sure how to go about finding a boat. The mysterious sailor couldn't help overhearing, and just happened to be in town with her boat and crew at that moment. She'd be happy to take them. They were off on an adventure!

As our friends set out to sea to find Captain Flints lost treasure, all sorts of strange things begin to happen. Whilst doing their daily routine checks of the ship, the crew mates pull out their telescopes to look beyond the horizon however, it is not land they see but a swirling storm, raging towards them! Captain Long Jane Silver commands her crew in fine fashion. They furl the sails and pull the ropes tight before they brace themselves for the impact of the mighty winds. Not a soul was lost on the water and everyone managed to pull together to ensure the safety of the ship and its crew-mates.

Using their compasses and the map, Jim and Libby helped Silver navigate all the way to Skeleton Island. As they dock, Jim – feeling suspicious, instructs Long Jane Silver and her crew to wait aboard the ship in case anyone unknown terror lies in wait.

Jim and Libby found the spot that is marked by an X on the map and begin digging. As they dug out the chest, suddenly a host of undead pirates appeared, and leading the charge, an old, haggard and intimidating figure loomed over them. It was Davy Jones! They were kidnapped, and along with the treasure, taken to the ominous "battleship" a name given to Davy Jones' ship in light of the many battles that he and his crew had won during the time that he was alive. None of this had gone unnoticed by patient and sneaky Silver, who watched and waited for the perfect time to strike.

Made to scrub the ship for what felt like hours, Jim and Libby grew tired of being mocked by the undead crew. It seemed as though no help was coming and just as they were about to give up hope, they heard a whistle in the distance. It was cannon fire! Davy Jones and his crew retaliated quickly but it was no hope, Long Jane Silver had the upper hand on this dark and gloomy night. The ship began to sink! Everyone abandoned ship and the treasure sank. Jim and Libby were the first to rescued from the sea, and tied up by the pirates. The undead crew were made to walk the plank to embarrass them further.

An anchor, along with two of Long Jane Silvers finest pirates, were sent to the bottom of the sea to retrieve the chest. As they hooked it on, a dark figure began to swim towards them quickly. It was Davy Jones! He snatched at the treasure but before he could reach it, his arch nemesis – a giant shark - swallowed him whole with one massive gulp. He was never to be seen again...

The pirates celebrated as the treasure was brought aboard, but Jim and Libby were still tied up, their fate still to be decided by Long Jane Silver. They returned to Bristol with the wind at their backs and their favourite song "we are the champions" playing. However, before they could enjoy any of their wealth, they were immediately boarded by the pirate police who made quick work of Silver and her crew. Turns out this wasn't her first dastardly deed. Jim and Libby lived Happily ever after with their new found riches!