

## Free public lecture at Mary Rose Museum, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

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**12 noon - 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

### **HMS SWIFT**

HMS Swift was a British sloop of war which was sank off Patagonia, Argentina in 1770. The vessel was conducting surveys around the Falklands/Malvinas Islands where she was based. Bad weather drove the ship towards mainland South America, where the vessel stranded in Port Desire, now Puerto Deseado, while looking for shelter. All but three of the crew survived and were rescued about a month later.

The *Swift* project shares some of the characteristics of the *Mary Rose*, including being discovered by local amateur divers; the hull and its contents being very well preserved, as well as acting as a catalyst for the development of maritime archaeology in Argentina.

This lecture will bring to life the extraordinary story of the Swift, including her loss, discovery and subsequent archaeological research.

Entry to the lecture is free, but does not include entry to the Mary Rose Museum which would be subject to standard entry fee.

For information on the Nautical Archaeology Society please visit their website at [www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org](http://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org)