

Names: Charlotte and Ella
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An Interview with Sir Francis Drake

- Interviewer: Welcome, Sir Francis Drake! Our noble English sailor.
- Drake: Thank you very much, I am most happy to be here.
- Interviewer: I have got a series of questions for you. My first one is how did you feel when you got forced to flee to Kent with your family?
- Drake: Well I didn't really mind that much because my wife and I have no children so it wasn't that hard for us. Anyway it was better in Kent because I had better jobs there.
- Interviewer: And I understand that you are a very busy man, but, were you all of the following in one go... Vice admiral, English sea-captain, privateer, navigator, slaver, renowned pirate and politician?
- Drake: No I was not but I was all of those things but just at different times, my favourite is being the privateer because it suits my personality and my liking for vessels and ships.
- Interviewer: what was it like being a Privateer, and were you proud of your self?
- Drake: It was quite a challenging job, but it was most intriguing. I *was* very proud of myself at the time, especially when I attacked the mule train, which was my first successful raid.
- Interviewer: Can you perhaps tell us a bit about that?
- Drake: I was walking by and then I saw a Spanish mule train travelling with a cargo of all the gold and silver that you could imagine. I thought quickly and started to attack the train. When I had got all the goods I could get hold of I ran back to my little boat, only to find that my boat had been stolen. I could just hear the Spanish running up behind me! I got my men to build a raft and we paddled out on to the wide ocean. We travelled ten miles until we found my big vessel, so we climbed in safely and when I got back home I was a millionaire!

Interviewer: WOW! That's an interesting story you've got there! Have you ever had an unsuccessful mission?

Drake: Well there was a time when the weather had failed and I couldn't go out to battle, but otherwise I have been very successful.

Interviewer: You travelled to the Pacific five years later than the mule train raid. Can you tell us something about your trip to the Pacific?

Drake: Well I did make it but violent storms destroyed one of the three ships in the strait and caused another to return to England, leaving only 'The Pelican'. I pushed onwards in my lone flagship, now renamed 'The Golden Hind'.

Interviewer: Is there any more to that story?

Drake: Yes. I sailed north along the Pacific coast of South America, attacking Spanish ports and rifling towns. Some Spanish ships were captured, and I used their more accurate charts. Before reaching the coast of Peru, I visited Mocha Island where I was seriously injured by hostile natives.

Interviewer: Thank you very much; I have one last question for you to answer. Overall how does it feel to be so rich?

Drake: I don't really need it all, but it does help my good reputation.

Interviewer: Well thank you for your answers they were very interesting.

Drake: No thank *you* I have enjoyed being here.

Interviewer: Goodbye.