

# Porthcurno

telegraph museum

**!IDEAS**  
**Café**

## From Australia to Zimmermann: A Brief History of Cable Telegraphy During World War One

**A free evening talk**  
**Wednesday 7th August**

**Half price museum entry from 4:00pm**  
**FREE ENTRY to talk only from 6pm (talk begins 6:15pm)**



Following the start of World War One, Britain cut Germany's undersea telegraph cables, leaving a single transatlantic cable intact. Britain was able to read any message this cable carried, leading to the interception of the controversial Zimmermann telegram in 1917. In return, Germany tried to destroy Allied telegraph cables in the Pacific and Indian Oceans; attacking telegraph stations at Fanning Island and the Cocos Islands in 1914. This was the start of the "cable wars", which shows the strategic importance of the global telegraph network.

With Dr Liz Bruton, Postdoctoral Researcher "Innovating in Combat: telecommunications and intellectual property in the First World War", University of Leeds and the Museum of History of Science, Oxford

Discover more about Ideas Cafe and other museum events: [www.porthcurno.org.uk](http://www.porthcurno.org.uk)

This event takes place in the Clore Learning Space, Porthcurno Telegraph Museum, Porthcurno TR19 6JX  
Tel: 01736 810966 E: [info@porthcurno.org.uk](mailto:info@porthcurno.org.uk)