

THE KEDGE ANCHOR

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Quarter-Deck	2
Forthcoming Events	6
The Ditty Bag	7
Cruising	10
Book Notes	12
Nelson Notes & Queries	14
Collectors' Corner	15

Special points of interest:

- Trafalgar Dinner 2004, p.2
- Exhibition Opportunity, p.2
- Rediscovering Nelson, p.3
- SeaBritain 2005 Newsletter, p.3
- In Harbour: Derek Allen, p.4
- News from Portsmouth, p.4
- NYC Pickle Night, p.5
- A Nelson Checklist, p.5
- Nelson Monument Liverpool, p.7
- Bronte Revisited, p.8
- Portrait to Sicily, p.9
- Two Nelson Cruises, p.10-11
- Books: *Nelson: A Dream of Glory; Wellington's Navy, Stopping Napoleon; Forests and Sea Power; Nelson's Purse; Command of the Ocean; etc.* p.12-13
- Notes & Queries: *Nelson Monuments, and John Pollard*, p.14-15
- Nelson Society Medal, p.15
- A Guzzardi in California, p.16

WARWICK ASSUMES COMMAND



To mark his retirement as Chairman of The 1805 Club, Colin White (left) was presented with a crystal ships' decanter "for leadership and services rendered" during his five years at the helm. Incoming Chairman, Peter Warwick (right) made the presentation on behalf of The 1805 Club Council at the Sixth Annual General Meeting on Saturday 24 April 2004. The photograph was taken in the grounds of the Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich.

THE CHAIRMAN'S DISPATCH

"I have the honour and happiness to command..."

I am honoured to have been elected your new Chairman at such an exciting time in the Club's history and on the eve of the Trafalgar bicentenary. I joined The 1805 Club in 1993 and its Council in 1994, so it is gratifying that you have not had enough of me!

On behalf of the Club may I extend warm thanks to my friend and predecessor, Colin White, under whose superb stewardship the Club has grown in stature and in whose hands much of the preparation for 2005 has been accomplished. It is marvellous that he stays on the Council to direct The Trafalgar Captains' Memorial, one of the most exciting and significant projects in the Club's history. We shall also continue to enjoy his encyclopaedic knowledge and inspiration.

-continued on page two-

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THE CHAIRMAN'S DISPATCH *(continued from page one)*

The significance of 2005 is clear to everyone. It is a fantastic opportunity to promote the Club and to attract new members. However, the Club's work does not suddenly come to a halt in 2006. No other organization preserves the monuments and memorials to the Georgian sailing navy. We shall be needed even more because of the interest aroused by the bicentenary.

Fortunately, the charitable objects of the Club allow us to spread our influence beyond Nelson and Trafalgar. In fact, few of us joined the Club solely because of 2005. Our interests go much deeper than that. Therefore, while Nelson will remain central to the Club's activities, we shall build on our achievements during the Nelson Decade and harness the naval story during the remainder of the Napoleonic Wars.

The three activities the Royal Navy were involved in after Trafalgar, notably blockade, the capture of enemy colonies and spirited frigate actions are fascinating and fertile areas. We can look forward to marking the post-Trafalgar engagements with the French - such as Duckworth's action at St Domingo in 1806, the Mediterranean campaign, the Peninsula War and the American War of 1812. There are also the colourful careers of Cockburn, Cochrane and Hoste, and throughout the omnipresent influence of Nelson's spirit.

Your new Council is a fine and dedicated group of individuals and they will all be directly involved in influencing the Club's future. I am particularly pleased that Bill White is our first Vice-Chairman. He has already done much for the Club and he will be of great assistance to the new Chairman. Of course, we must now find a new events officer! I shall continue with the organisation of this year's Trafalgar Dinner at Newhouse and confide that someone will soon come forward to plan our future events strategy and the Club's HMS *Victory* dinner on 13 May 2005.

I look forward to serving you all and to warm and productive relations with our friends: The Nelson Society, the Naval Dockyards Society and The Society for Nautical Research. "Let us set all sail and beat to quarters - the future awaits us!"

Peter Warwick