



THE KEDGE ANCHOR

TRAFALGAR BICENTENARY

THE CHAIRMAN'S DISPATCH

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Quarter-Deck	2
From North American	4
The Ditty Bag	7
Book Notes	8
Collectors' Corner	10
Research Notes	11
Nelson Notes & Queries	12

Special points of interest:

- The Chairman's Dispatch p.1
- La Maddalena holds Mass and Exhibition p.2
- Trafalgar Dinner at Newhouse p.3
- Trafalgar Captains update p.3
- Pickle Night New York p.4
- Trafalgar Festival Launch p.5
- Victory Cutter p.6
- News from Portsmouth p.6
- Sir William Hargood p.7
- Books: *Trafalgar x 3*, *Who's Who in Naval History*, *Frigate Commander*, *Defiant and Dismasted at Trafalgar*, *Nelson: Britannia's God of War*, *Nelson-The New Letters*, p.8-9
- Enys Sale at Bonhams p.10-11
- Ayshford Trafalgar Roll CD, p.11

In less than six weeks we shall be celebrating the New Year. For members of The 1805 Club it is likely to be a very special year because it marks the bicentenary of the Battle of Trafalgar and the death of Admiral Lord Nelson. Looking beyond our particular enthusiasms it will also be a splendid opportunity for people throughout the country to recognise their relationship with the sea and to discover the country's rich maritime heritage. So that members can get a feel for next year's commemorations, *The Trafalgar Festival* and *Sea Britain 2005*, this issue of the Kedge Anchor contains a summary of the main events.

Apart from spiritual leaders, in Britain it is hard to think of any person other than Nelson who has been revered so widely and consistently for 200 years. His combat acumen, moral and physical courage, leadership excellence, humanity and mythical status have all contributed to this phenomenon. Unlike his peers, many of whom were also loved by their ships' crews, Nelson's personality reached out to whole fleets, and even to a nation. Remarkably, he has also reached out across time to the present where there is no living memory.

There are currently more than 80 separate events and activities planned in the UK to commemorate the bicentenary. Some are very big, such as the International Fleet Review; others are more modest and include lectures and private Trafalgar dinners and lunches across the country. As a whole, the country appears to be responding in a way very different to recent major occasions like the Millennium. The process is more from the grass roots. It seems as if the bicentenary could take a largely unsuspecting public by surprise as they find themselves 'Trafalgarised'!

Whatever they do, wherever they live, whichever way they turn most people will eventually encounter something next year to do with the bicentenary. In their local pubs they will be able to drink specially brewed beer which they can place on specially produced beer mats. In their homes they will watch blockbuster programmes ranging from the life of Nelson to the magnificent coastline of Albion.

In their bookshops and libraries, they will be bombarded with the fleets of new books that have been written about Nelson and the battle, and their newspapers and magazines will be full of articles. Museums, galleries and concert halls are known to be harnessing the theme. In the country they will find 27 woodlands named after the British sail of the line at the battle, including a wonderful new 150-acre wood in Kent representing the *Victory*. Go into your local graveyard and you may find a plaque placed there by *The 1805 Club* to honour a Trafalgar captain!

-continued on page two-

The **KEDGE ANCHOR** is the newsletter of The 1805 Club. It is published three times a year (in March, July and November) and is distributed free to members. For information about the newsletter contact North American editor: R. Burdett Mafit at 1980 Sunrise Boulevard, Eugene, Oregon 97405 USA, phone +1 541-343-1894, email: <randvm1805@aol.com>, or UK editors Paul and Penny Dalton at Woodlands, Hankham, Pevensey, East Sussex BN24 5BE, UK, phone +44 01323 764212, email: <pd@pdpictorial.freemove.co.uk>. ❖

