

THE VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

By John Rodgaard, US Navy (Ret'd)
Chairman, The 1805 Club

I trust all of you, your families and friends have been keeping well since my last message. I do share your hope for better days to come.

I am sure you will agree with me that this issue of *The Kedge Anchor* is an outstanding one, and worth your time to have a good read. Our editor, Peter Turner, has knocked another one over the fence or 'knocked it for six' for those who swing a flat-sided bat. Of course he has received another batch of super articles from the membership. All were a joy to read. As for me, the two articles on William Hoste – 'Nelson's favourite' – reminded me of the times my wife and I have taken lunch with our Norfolk relations at the Hoste Arms on the Green at Burnham Market. One day we'll return to 'dear Norfolk'.

The Truxtun Bowl, the article about the collectable and the biographical summary of Commodore Truxtun, reminded me of one aspect of his life. As a merchant mariner of note, Truxtun stands as an example of the commercial ties between the former American colonies to its metropole. Andrew Lambert wrote, 'British economists and imperial theorists...saw the way ahead through "informal empire": using economic levers to secure preponderant influence in trade over other nation states ... America remained part of the British system for some time, and many of the old trades, markets and relationships continued'.

The 'Prisoner of War Art' article is fascinating. How many of us knew the Norman Cross Depot was a purpose-built POW camp for French war prisoners? The collection of POW art is truly fascinating; much more than just bone model ships. That reminds me to say that several Club members who participated in this year's US Naval Academy's McMullen Naval History Symposium saw what is considered one of the largest collection of French POW constructed bone model ship displays in the world. I was told the US Naval Academy Museum's collection is larger than the one at the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich.

I am sure you will enjoy 'Carol Pozefsky's Obsession'. For many of us, the reasons for



becoming members of The Club do vary, even though there is a common theme – Nelson. Carol's reason was that Nelson was the 'Mozart of the Sea'. Thank you Carol for your insight. That reminds me, our editor is looking for articles about the 'why' behind becoming a member of The 1805 Club. I venture that it will become a routine section of the *KA*.

I encourage the membership to continue providing such diverse and extremely interesting articles to

Peter for *The 1805 Dispatch* and *The Kedge Anchor*.

Regarding *The Trafalgar Chronicle*, you should have received your latest edition by now. If not, please contact tc.editor@1805club.org. As with *The Kedge Anchor* and *The 1805 Dispatches*, I hope you found *The Trafalgar Chronicle* worth your time. I believe these publications have provided The Club's membership with some aspect of continuity during these unprecedented times.

As I mentioned in the latest *Dispatches*, The Club has been moving along smartly in restructuring – to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and forming The 1805 Trading Company. Supporting this restructuring, the business development committee will be reporting to Council their recommendation for The Club to adopt a full-fledged business plan. I shall report out on that shortly after it has been submitted to The Club's Council.

We are approaching membership renewal season for 2022. The good news is that dues are still £40.00 for those in the UK and the equivalent exchange for non-UK residents. For example, the 29 September exchange rate between the dollar and the pound puts the Americans' dues at \$53.87. For other nationalities please check your exchange rate to ensure you will provide The Club with £40.00. Thank you.

I do hope all of you and your loved ones will continue to be safe, and don't forget to HOLD FAST.

Yours aye,

