



# HOUSE OF ENGLAND

[www.houseofengland.org](http://www.houseofengland.org)



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Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

NEWSLETTER  
October 2011

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday October 4, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the Hall of Nations.

**LADIES' AUXILIARY LUNCHEON:** Wednesday October 12, 2011 - at 12:30PM in Hall of Nations for just \$3.00 each and will be hosted by the House of Finland.

## MEMBER NEWS

**Announcement:** 'A funny thing happened on the way to host at the cottage on September 18th, we got married!' Congratulations to Joel and Diane Roop (formerly Diane Fox).

**Nominating committee:** Delphine appointed Aileen, Sharon and Steve. They will be presenting their nominations at the October meeting. Please contact them if you would like to serve and be added to the list.

**Audit of Treasurer's records for 2010-2011 fiscal year:** Delphine has appointed Annette, Arya, Dorothy, Shirley and herself to the committee but no date yet set for the audit.

**September meeting minutes:** These have been mailed or emailed with this newsletter to save time at the next meeting. Please read so that they can be approved (with any corrections needed).

**HPR International Cottages 75 years booklet:** These are available at \$5 each. See Delphine to order.

**HPR Lapel pins:** Place your order fast for a commemorative pin. Cost is \$2.50 to members. Delphine only has a few left.

**Update on our change in organization status:** Our Bylaws were resubmitted to Graham McGruer, head of the HPR Bylaws committee, in August for final approval- still being reviewed.

**Exempt from Federal Income Tax:** Mel received confirmation from the IRS that we are a public charity status 501c3 (under paragraph 509a2) as of February 2011. Well done Mel on working through all the paperwork and forms to achieve this status.

**House of England business cards:** Pick these up at the cottage and hand out to friends and prospective members.

**Birthdays:** Lots of birthdays in October- Jean, Ernie, Aileen, Meegan, Dorothy, Sharon, Antony, Alexi, Neil, Victoria and Suzie! Did I miss anyone? Congratulations to all.

## HOSTING AND HOSTESSING AT THE COTTAGE

Thank you to our volunteers.

*Call our hosting chairperson, Aileen Price to volunteer for future dates. 619-427-1403*

Commitment is from 12 noon to 4PM, providing light refreshments and milk (teabags and sugar are provided) and chatting with the visitors. Donations are accepted for upkeep of the cottage.

**NOTE:** Rosie Lee Restaurant (Good English food) will give a discount to anyone purchasing food items for serving at the cottage. Phone Lizzie Murray or email her at [lizbairdmurray@gmail.com](mailto:lizbairdmurray@gmail.com).

Sept 4	Sharon Boskovich
Sept 6 meeting	Delphine Malone and Aileen Price
Sept 11	Steve Gonzales
Sept 18	Joel and Diane Roop
Sept 25	Doug and Hilda Branch
Oct 2	Victoria Ross and Mel/Fran Weekley
Oct 4 meeting	Margaret Momparler and Annette York
Oct 9	OPEN
Oct 16	Jean Harrison and Delphine Malone
Oct 23	Aileen Price and Delphine Malone
Oct 30	Terry Carpenter and Mel/Fran Weekley

**Would you  
like a nice  
cuppa tea?**



**NEW:** See Delphine for a list of County Health Dept requirements for serving in the cottage. They will be inspecting each week and we need to be in compliance.

**Reminders:** It is acceptable to take \$6 per host from the donations towards cost of milk and food- just let the Treasurer know for accounting purposes. Also, please let Fran know if you notice any supplies need to be replenished.

### Update on 75th Anniversary Mugs

There are mugs on display at the cottage. If a visitor donates to obtain one, please let Mel know when turning in the donations money. You can also pick one up at the Tuesday meeting. All members are encouraged to purchase some for themselves also. They are \$8.00 each.

Remember, when ringing friends and family in  
England:

British summer time ends Oct 30<sup>th</sup> but California  
summer time ends Nov 6<sup>th</sup> so, for 7 days, we will be  
only 7 hours apart.

# Trafalgar Day- October 21, 2011

(not a national holiday)

Trafalgar Day is the celebration of the victory won by the Royal Navy, commanded by Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson over the combined French and Spanish fleets at the Battle of Trafalgar on 21 October 1805. The formation of the Navy League in 1894 gave added impetus to the movement to recognise Nelson's legacy, and grand celebrations were held in Trafalgar Square on Trafalgar Day, 1896. It was widely commemorated by parades, dinners and other events throughout much of the British Empire in the 19th century and early 20th century. It is still widely celebrated in navies of the Commonwealth of Nations.

Its public celebration declined after the end of World War I in 1918. The massive casualties and upheaval had changed the general public perception of war as a source of glorious victories to a more sombre view of it as a tragedy, for which the newly instituted Armistice Day on 11 November was created. However, Trafalgar day was still marked as a public day each year. Around 1993 it was rumoured that John Major's government might make it a public holiday in place of May Day, and this plan has been revived in the 2011 Tourism Strategy created by the Cameron/Clegg government.

The year 2005 was the bicentennial of Trafalgar, and the Royal Navy led *Trafalgar 200* celebrations. The 2005 International Fleet Review held off Spithead in the Solent on 28 June was the first since 1999 and the largest since Her Majesty The Queen's 1977 Silver Jubilee.



*The Lord Mayor of Birmingham lays a wreath at Birmingham's statue of Lord Nelson on Trafalgar Day 2007.*



Sea Cadets of the United Kingdom celebrate this day usually with a parade of a town.

In Birmingham, the anniversary is celebrated by a ceremony at the statue of Lord Nelson in the Bull Ring. The statue is the oldest statue to Lord Nelson in the United Kingdom. The ceremony is led by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham and involves men and women of HMS Forward, Sea Cadet Units from across the West Midlands and various civic organisations including The Nelson Society and The Birmingham Civic Society. Afterwards there is a wreath laying by naval and civic organisations and a parade marches off to Victoria Square, the public square in front of the seat of local government, where the Lord Mayor takes the salute.

Another intriguing aspect of the Birmingham celebration is that the statue is regaled with swags of laurel and flowers, no doubt due to its location by the wholesale flower markets of Birmingham. This tradition was carried on throughout most of the nineteenth century and was revived in 2004.

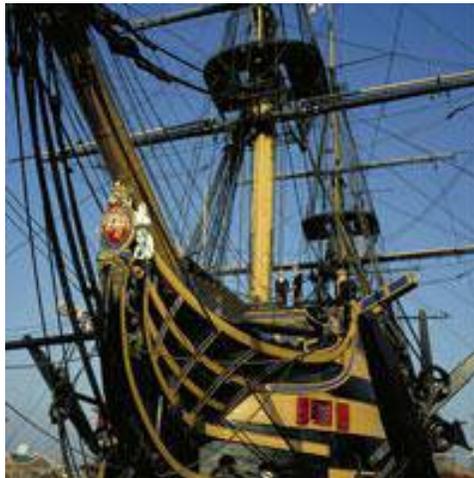
## “Britain” Magazine- publication July 14, 2011 HMS Victory undergoes restoration



The first restoration work of the mast and rigging began on HMS Victory on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011. The fore topgallant yard and fore topsail yard were removed from the ship by crane safely. The restoration work will see 26 miles of associated rigging and 768 wooden blocks removed, some of which are 100 years old.

The ship's three masts, bow spirit and rigging will be dismantled over the coming weeks. The last time HMS Victory was seen without her topmast was back in 1944 so this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to see her under-going such extreme maintenance.

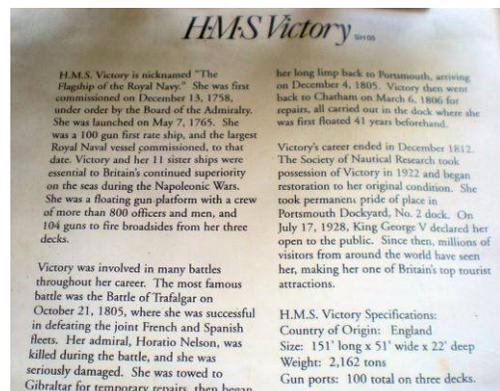
Royal Navy's Director General, Professor Dominic Tweddle said, "HMS Victory is a national icon. It is both a relief to see the next stage in her restoration begin, but also a real challenge. We are determined that Victory will be open to the public throughout so that they can share in excitement and even thrills of the restoration story."



Portsmouth Historic Dockyard will soon open an interactive exhibition exploring how HMS Victory was original built in 1759, how she was preserved and cared for during war and out of service and finally cover the restoration process that will span the next ten years.



*The model and write-up are in the cottage.*

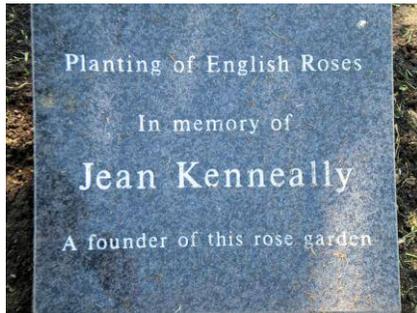


## Exploring Balboa Park

**What a treat to hear the bells in Balboa Park!** They make me homesick for the English church bells that we heard every Sunday morning calling people to worship. The park bells come from the 198 foot tall California tower, part of the Museum of Man, which was built in 1915. The Ona May Lowe Carillon was placed there in 1946 and had 30 chimes. Since 1967, it has had 100 chimes and they play every quarter hour with short musical verses on the hour during daylight. The plaque at the museum states that they were given in honor of Ona May Lowe and to commemorate the peace of Sept 2, 1945.



**Have you visited the Rose Garden in Balboa Park?** There is a section full of English roses dedicated to the memory of Jean Kenneally. This lady was called San Diego's unofficial rose queen. She was very active with the San Diego Rose Society since the 1940s. (She died in 2006 at age 98). A miniature rose was created and named after her in 1984. In 2004, this miniature was the highest-rated rose of its kind in the country.



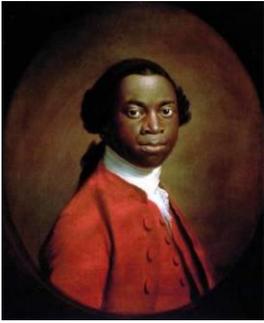
**Have you seen the butterflies in Balboa Park?** They are in the Zoro garden, which was developed during the 1935 California Pacific Exposition as a gold mining camp and a nudist colony! (Clothing now required to wander there!) Tucked away in the stone grotto nowadays are milkweed, sunflowers, foxglove and passion vine, verbena to encourage the development of the monarch, sulfer, skipper and swallowtail butterflies that reside there.



## October: UK Black History Month

Black History in England was first celebrated in 1987. The month of October was selected because it coincided with the Marcus Garvey celebrations and London Jubilee. Since that time, celebration has spread out from the London Boroughs to other English cities like Bristol, Leeds, Manchester Nottingham and Birmingham, as well as other parts of the United Kingdom.

*Photo:* [Olaudah Equiano](#) (c. 1745 – 1797), also known as Gustavus Vassa, was one of the most prominent people of African heritage involved in the British debate for the abolition of the slave trade. He wrote an autobiography that depicted the horrors of slavery and helped influence British lawmakers to abolish the slave trade in 1807.



Slave trading on all British vessels was abolished on March 25th 1807. It took another 26 years until all slavery was abolished in all British Colonies. Besides the slave routes there were several legal battles in parliament which started with the petition to abolish slavery in 1791.

### Wallis Simpson costumer jewellery auctioned:

Costume jewellery created for Wallis Simpson, the woman for whom Edward VIII abdicated the throne, is to go under the hammer in October, 2011.

The British monarchy was rocked to the core by the constitutional crisis when the King turned his back on the Crown, choosing love for the American divorcee over his royal duty in December 1936. The couple married the following year, and spent most of the rest of their lives in exile in France as the Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

Costume jewellery is jewellery manufactured as ornamentation to complement a particular fashionable costume or outfit and the Duchess, asked once what she thought of it, said: "I hate to admit it but I am absolutely fascinated by fake jewellery at the moment; I think it is so good."

Now, 25 years after her death, and following last year's multimillion-pound sale of her fine jewels at Sotheby's, five pieces of costume jewellery or body sculpture are to be sold by Dreweatts and Bloomsbury Auctions. They were created for the Duchess by American designer, Alexis Kirk. In a sale at Sotheby's in 1998 he bought back the pieces he had made for her for his own private collection. Now his family is selling the items.

