

## 24/10/21 October talk facts remembered



In our last talk '**Finding Captain Quilliam**' by *Andrew Bond* Andrew shared a lot of information about his ancestor from his extensive research.

On the Isle of Man, Captain John Quilliam is a famous Manx hero. There a 'Quilliam Society' exists, a memorial bronze bust at Castletown Bay, and to mark his birth 250 years ago this year, a book of commemorative stamps has been issued.



*A set of 6 commemorative stamps*

In his talk Andrew also dispelled some Trafalgar myths ;



*Photo credit: Portsmouth Dockyard  
HMS Victory with signal flags on  
Trafalgar Day*

- Nelson's famous inspiring words before the battle; "England expects every man to do his duty" had actually been "England confides every man to do his duty." But, to enable speed he agreed that "confides" be changed to "expect." (The word "expects" was listed in the signals book and so would need only 3 flags for the signal, instead of 8 flags, if spelt out letter by letter.)
- After Trafalgar HMS Victory was towed, as shown in the famous painting, but actually only for a while. She managed to sail and anchor unaided into Rosia Bay, Gibraltar.
- No proof has been found that Quilliam rigged up ropes for temporary steering during the battle.