

Waterloo Association: Autumn Lecture Weekend – Bull Hotel, Peterborough

Friday 24th October to Sunday 26th October 2025

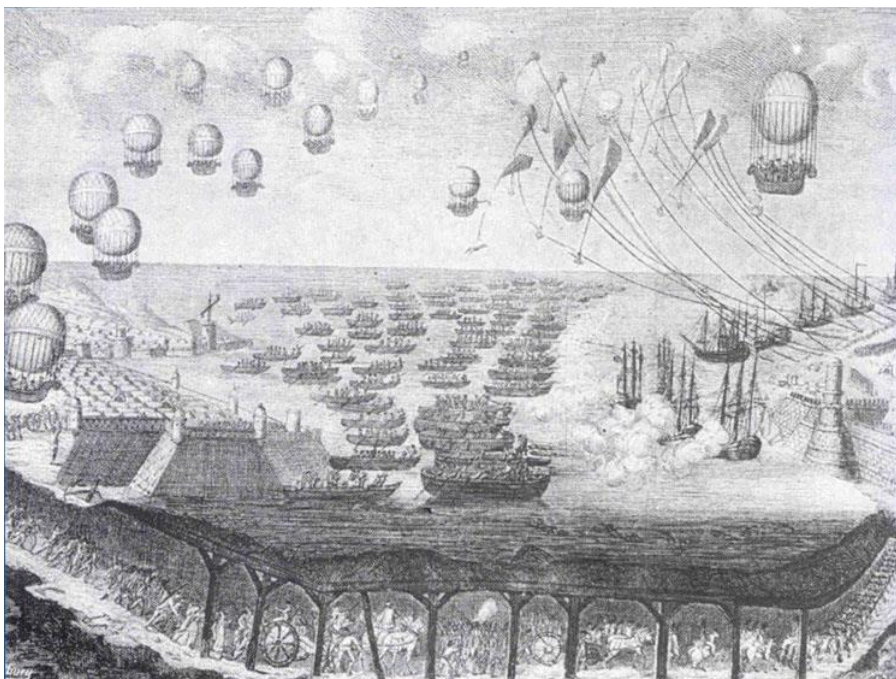
**Speakers: Dr John Morewood, Andrew Field, Paul Brunyee, Liam Telfer,
Dr Katherine Gazzard, Carole Divall**

**The Bull Hotel is pleased to host this event on behalf of the Waterloo Association.
This weekend will spotlight on the tumultuous events of 1805, including the
Battles of Trafalgar and Austerlitz**



The year 1805 witnessed many dramatic events. With the breakdown of the Peace of Amiens and the commencement of the War of the Third Coalition, the first of the Napoleonic Wars, Britain came under the constant threat of invasion from France.

Paul Brunyee will take us through the 'Great Terror' looking at how this country responded to the threatened invasion.



Cartoon on the invasion, showing a tunnel under the English Channel and a fleet of balloons

Meanwhile Napoleon busied himself creating a new army; the so called 'Army of the Ocean Coasts' or the 'Army of England' which was being formed and trained at various camps along the coasts of France and the Netherlands with barges being constructed at the channel ports to transport this invasion force to confront Britain on her home soil.

Andrew Field will outline how Napoleon, with his newly appointed Marshals, built what was to become known as 'La Grande Armée.'



Napoleon distributing the first Imperial Légion d'honneur at the Boulogne camps, on August 16, 1804 by Charles Etienne Pierre Motte

Dr John Morewood will focus on the vital role played by the Navy at this time including the blockade of French Naval Bases and outlining some of the minor naval actions during this period before finally providing an account of the Battle of Trafalgar itself; one of the most decisive engagements in naval history.

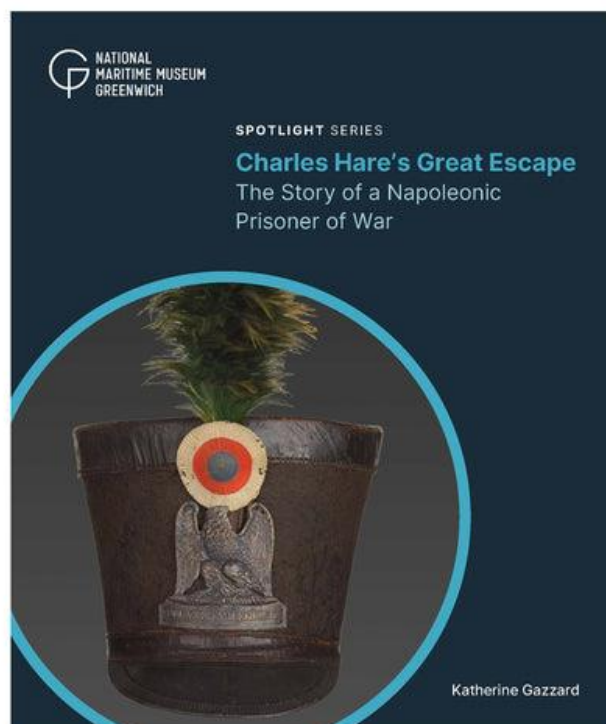


On the 9th September an Austrian army crossed the border onto Bavarian territory without a formal declaration of war. Napoleon, already aware of the threat, marched his troops into Austria and through Prussia encircling General Mack at Ulm who surrendered his forces on the 20th October, the day before the action at Trafalgar.

The French marched on to Vienna and Andrew Field will outline for us the highlights of this dramatic campaign culminating with Napoleon's tactical masterpiece at the battle of Austerlitz, which brought the war of the third coalition to an end.



This weekend we will also welcome Dr Katherine Gazzard, Curator of Art at Royal Museums Greenwich, who will provide us with the enthralling account of Charles Hare, a young British naval officer, who as a French prisoner of war carried out one of the most daring escape plans from French captivity to return to England.



Liam Telfer, is a former serviceman with the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and the Household Cavalry Regiment, and is now a specialist in living history with the 44th (East Essex) Regiment of Foot. Liam will give us a taste of what life was like on the road with Wellington's army.



Finally, on the bicentenary of his death, Carole Divall will be offering a much deserved tribute to General Foy, one of the most remarkable men of the period.

A committed republican, he voted against Napoleon both becoming Consul for Life and also against the establishment of the French Empire. Nevertheless he fought tirelessly for his country as a patriot for twenty-five years, being wounded for the fifteenth time at Waterloo. After the war he entered politics and become one of the leaders of the liberal opposition.

At his funeral on the 30th November 1825 it is said that almost one hundred thousand people followed his funeral procession in the pouring rain to Père-Lachaise Cemetery. A national subscription for the education of his children raised almost one million francs. An elaborate monument designed by Léon Vaudoyer was placed above his tomb in 1831.



Our venue, The Bull Hotel, is Peterborough's premier hotel, and is the only AA recognised four star hotel in the city centre.

Originally dating back to the 17th century, this grade two listed building has, over the years, been carefully restored and refurbished.

The hotel is a ten minute walk from Peterborough railway station and offers free parking to hotel residents.

The cost includes full board, with two nights' accommodation with breakfast, wine with dinner on the Friday and Saturday evenings, buffet lunches on Saturday and Sunday. The cost is based on a minimum attendance of 30 persons, with the estimated cost at £450 per single attendee, and £725 for two people sharing. Single Non-residential £272 (includes all meals).

A deposit of £50 per person is required at time of booking with balance payable by the 15th of September 2025, to guarantee your place. *Booking requests received after 15 September are subject to room availability at the Bull Hotel.*

Bookings should be sent to Steve Wright at: wa1815.sjw@gmail.com