

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, 7th March at 3.00 p.m. – A guided visit to the Museu da Farmácia, Rua Marechal Saldanha, nº1, Lisbon. (max. 25 people). This fascinating and little-known museum, located less than ten minutes' walk from the Chiado exit of the Baixa/Chiado Metro station, contains one of the finest collections in Europe in this

field with exhibits relating to the work of apothecaries and pharmacists from 3500 BC to the 20th century, including items from Egypt, Greece, the Roman Empire, pre-Colombian South America, Tibet and Japan. British items include a penicillin "culture" identified in Sir Alexander Fleming's own handwriting, a medicine pouch which Sir Ernest Schackleton carried on his Antarctic travels and two magnificent pharmacy jars from Bombay. Recreations of various Portuguese pharmacies show their development down the years and there is also a traditional 19th century Chinese pharmacy. Our visit will be led by Dr. João Neto, a fervent anglophile who is fluent in English. There is no charge for this visit but enrolment is essential and the enclosed form should be sent to Patricia Lamb at the address given, to reach her not later than

28th February. If you enrol and then find you are unable to attend, please advise Patricia Lamb in good time, so that your place can be given to someone else. We have been much saddened at recent events to find that some people fail to appear and do not trouble to advise us. (NOTE: The Museu da Farmácia is not easily accessible by car and a taxi would probably have to leave you at the corner of Rua Marechal Saldanha. Arrival by Metro is therefore strongly recommended.)

Thursday, 14th March at St. Julian's School at 6.00 p.m. – A talk by Mrs. Carol Mason on "The South of India: in search of the Portuguese". Carol Mason, a historian and member of the Society, will speak to us about a recent visit to Southern India and her discovery of many traces of the Portuguese presence in this part of the world in the centuries following on Vasco da Gama's discovery of the sea route to the sub-continent. There is no payment for this talk but if you plan to attend you are

requested to send the enclosed enrolment form to Patricia Lamb by 7th March to give us an idea of numbers, so that a suitable venue may be chosen within the school.

Wednesday, 17th April / Sunday, 21st April – "The cradle of the Portuguese nation" - a five day visit to Guimarães, Braga and the Citânia de Briteiros. (min. 30 / max. 35 people). Depart from Campo Grande, Lisbon 7.00 a.m. / Estoril casino 7.30 a.m. - Our drive north will take us through Arouca, where we will pause for lunch and to visit the great Benedictine convent of Santa Maria, which was originally founded prior to the establishment of Portugal as an independent kingdom. In the afternoon we will continue north to Guimarães, where we will spend four nights at the fine 4-star Hotel de Guimarães. On Thursday we will visit the Palace of the Dukes of Bragança and the beautifully restored historic centre of Guimarães, recently declared a UNESCO World Heritage site. This is the town where the first king of Portugal,

D.Afonso Henriques, was born and we will see the tiny chapel of S. Miguel where he was baptised. On Friday we will visit the ancient Citânia de Briteiros, a hilltop settlement of pre-Roman origin, which is one of the most impressive and exciting archaeological sites in Portugal. The following day will be spent in Braga, sometimes called "The Rome of Portugal" because of its many fine churches. Braga is a town of contrasts: a busy and prosperous business area with fine modern roads and many underpasses stands side by side with the old town centre, whose cathedral is by far the oldest in Portugal. On Sunday we will leave Guimarães and travel south, stopping for a final lunch at the Restaurante D. Pedro close to the River Mondego in Coimbra, which is already well known to our members. Lunch in Guimarães on Thursday and Braga on Saturday will not be included in the overall price of our journey since we know that members enjoy having an opportunity of choosing between sitting down to a good lunch and

spending more time exploring these fascinating towns. The total cost for the five-day trip, including all meals except the two lunches mentioned, will be 348.80 Euros per person, with a single room supplement of 60.00 Euros per person. Enrolment forms, together with a cheque for a deposit of 50.00 Euros per person made payable to The British Historical Society of Portugal, should be mailed to Patricia Lamb at the address given on the enclosed form to reach her not later than 11th March. The balance of the cost should be sent to reach Patricia Lamb by 1st April.

Prince Henry, the Navigator

The statue of Prince Henry, the Navigator was inaugurated by H.E. President Sampaio in London at Belgrave Square, in front of the Portuguese Embassy. It is the second statue of a Portuguese in London. The first one being Diogo Cão, the discoverer of Cape Good Hope, on the façade of South Africa House in Trafalgar Square.

The choice of the statue of Prince Henry was not easy. One of some merit was found in the cellars of the Lisbon Academy of Art, but then it was vetoed by the Portuguese Foreign Minister because the Prince had on no big hat. That the Prince ever had a big hat is a matter of dispute and his present image derives from the well-known Paineis de São Vicente, where one of the figures is as such identified. But is it the great Prince? Anyway, the Minister said, that is what the public expects; so find a statue with a big hat! So, another statue was duly found in the referred to cellars, this time with the famous hat.

William Beckford (1760-1844)

An Eye for the Magnificent

There is an exhibition of his remarkable collection of furniture and pictures at Dulwich Picture Gallery, up to 14th April 2002. This exhibition explores his life and collection.

As is well known he came to Portugal and lived at the Quinta do Ramalhão, in Sintra. The exhibition contains a fine picture of Batalha by L'Eveque.

In the gallery shop a CD is sold with some of his musical compositions. This very vain man

once said he was helping Mozart in composing!

Pimenta
A Portuguese-English Menu
Translator

A second edition of this very useful booklet has been published by the British Council and edited by David Evans. "Pimenta na Língua" (pepper on your tongue) used to be a punishment for children for uttering rude words in the presence of their elders and betters.

Art and Patronage in
Eighteenth-Century Portugal
Angela Delaforce
Cambridge University Press.
£ 120

This well illustrated book has just been published in the U.K. We will enclose a review in our next Annual Report. Pity it is so expensive.

Annual Subscriptions

Members are once again reminded that the final date for payment of the 2002 annual subscription (Individual 20 Euros, Couple 25

Euros) is 31st March 2002. Cheques should be made payable to The British Historical Society of Portugal and mailed to The Hon.Treasurer, The British Historical Society of Portugal, c/o St. Julian's School, Quinta Nova, 2776-601 Carcavelos.

If we do not receive your payment by 31st March we will sadly assume that you are not interested in continuing your membership and no further circulars will be sent to you.

Change of U.K. Representative

Our UK representative for many years, David Delaforce, has advised us that he will be leaving London shortly to spend more time at his home in Portugal. We thank David for his 15 years of dedicated service to the affairs of the Society in the UK.

We are pleased to advise that as from 1st April Barry Vernon has agreed to take over as our UK representative and he can be contacted at 180 Penrose Avenue, Watford WD1 5AH, U.K.

Library Opening Hours

You will be aware that our volunteer librarians are normally on duty at our Library in St. Julian's School, Quinta Nova, 2776-601 Carcavelos, every Tuesday from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. However, members wishing to visit the Library are recommended to phone in advance to our Chief Librarian, Jane Flower (21-4572759), to confirm that the Library is open.

**Plans for the Reconstruction of Lisbon,
1755. R. de S. Francisco**