

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, 31st January – Annual Lunch, preceded by a talk by Clive Gilbert on "British Families Connected With The Sacavém Ceramics Factory" - St. Julian's School, Carcavelos – 11.30 a.m.

Our Vice Chairman, Clive Gilbert, who led us on a very interesting visit to the Ceramics Museum in November, is a member of one of the British families closely involved with the production of ceramics in Sacavém and will speak to us about British connections with the factory. Members wishing to attend are requested to send Patricia Lamb the enclosed enrolment form, together with a cheque for 30 Euros per person, to cover the cost of the meal (which includes wine and coffee), to reach her not later than 15th January 2004.

**Immaculate Conception
by Murillo
taken by Marshall Soult
during Peninsular War to Paris
and then returned**

Books on Portugal

Our library is always keen to receive books on Portugal of whatever nature. Please send them, or drop them off at St. Julian's School addressed to the Society.

Please don't send books, which do not concern Portugal.

Appeal for volunteers for Library

The Society has extensive records of British institutions in Portugal some demised like the English College, the Lisbon Ladies Club or the British Protestant School others continuing like the English Burial Ground.

These records need to be catalogued so that researchers have a quicker and better idea of the material available. We would very much like if one or two volunteers could step forward with computer experience and, obviously, if with archival experience, so much the better. Please contact our Hon. Librarian Jane Flower, tel.: 214572759.

One day Seminar

We are hoping in 2004 to organize a one day seminar on a particular aspect of Portuguese history or art. We will have one or two talks, a film and perhaps a particular visit, which ties in with the subject. Lunch will, of course, be part of the learning-curve! Watch this space!

English Surnames

Our patron, Dame Glynne Evans, has suggested that we research and publish a booklet on English surnames, which, in practice, now are held by families, which consider themselves entirely Portuguese. I am reminded of the names Allen, Street or Norton for example. Many others must exist. Some, of course, change such as Chambel for Campbel. Please send in your suggestions.

**Lead sculpture of Mars at Queluz,
near Lisbon, by John Cheere,
mid 18th century**

**A new project for World Monuments
Fund in Britain and WMF in
Portugal.**

Bust of Queen Catherine of Braganza

You will recall that the Society organized the placing of a bust of Britain's only Portuguese Queen in the Palácio da Bemposta (near the Military Academy) in Lisbon, which she built. The twin statue is now going to be placed in London. Her Majesty the Queen has approved that the bust enter the Royal Collection and it will be placed in the Royal Hospital in Chelsea, an institution created by Catherine of Braganza's husband, King Charles II,

and still flourishing with its Chelsea military Pensioners.

We hope to inaugurate this placing of the bust in 2004 on a date yet to be decided together with the Anglo-Portuguese Society. When a date is chosen we will, of course, advise our members. A good occasion for our U.K. members and perhaps, some of our "locals" would like to go over to London for this celebration.

**Portuguese Revolution
1974-1975**

Readers are reminded that the Society is collecting personal experiences and recollections of the Portuguese Revolution. We are planning to put together a booklet with such witnesses. Government archives open after 30 years so in 2004 we will know, hopefully, what the British Embassy in Lisbon was saying in 1974 but this does not replace personal impressions. Please send your contribution to Paulo Lowndes Marques, Rua Filipe Folque, nº 2 – 4º andar, 1069-121 Lisboa or to e-mail: paulo.marques@amva.pt.

Should you feel that you are unable for whatever reason to write down your memories please let us know and we will call on you with a tape recorder.

**Unknown Seas
How Vasco da Gama Opened the
East
by Ronald Watkins**

John Murray 336. £ 20

Ronald Watkins who has lived in Portugal and now lives in Arizona has written this book on Vasco da Gama's famous voyage in 1498. He also describes the strategy of the discoveries beforehand, which culminated in this epic journey opening up the Indian Ocean to European navigation. Six years before, Columbus had also set out to discover India. He crossed the Atlantic four times always claiming he had reached India. He was never near. Yet Columbus is far more famous than Vasco da Gama, who was told to go to India (four times further away than America) and reached this subcontinent

first time amid great hardships (he lost half his crews). History is very unfair!

**Glass
The Strange History of the Lyne
Stephens Fortune
By Jenifer Roberts
Templeton Press. 366 pag.**

Those who wander near Cais do Sodré will suddenly find themselves in a small square called "Praça Irmãos Stephens". Most of us know vaguely about these English brothers who, at the time of the Marquis of Pombal, founded at Marinha Grande a glass manufacturing factory. In Lisbon they lived in the square, which still bears their name. Indeed up to the Revolution of 1974 and beyond the Fábrica Irmãos Stephens still existed. I think (but I am subject to correction) the name has now disappeared.

In the late XVIII century, the author tells us, several visitors to Batalha and Alcobaça such as Mickle (who first translated the "Lusiadas" into English) and Robert Southey, and many others visited the glassworks at Marinha Grande. The Chapters on the Napoleonic Invasions (the Peninsular

War) are especially interesting. The factory was eventually bequeathed to the Portuguese nation in 1825. Today among the funds, which are administered by the British Charitable Fund there are monies which have their origins in the Stephens fortune. However, the great fortune of the Stephens family in the XIX century is never really explained. The Marinha Grande factory did not have the dimension to justify such riches. Where did they come from?

**O Tratado de Methuen
(1703)**

**Livros Horizonte 2003. €22. 159
pag.**

A book just out with a number of essays on this controversial treaty between Portugal and Great Britain. The Treaty is two hundred years old this year. Basically, Portugal exported wine to Britain at a very favourable tax rate compared to French wines and Britain exported industrial goods namely textiles. The Treaty was always blamed for having destroyed and infant

Portuguese industrial economy and, of course, in practice, it was British wine merchants who established themselves in Oporto and grew rich on exporting wine and, especially, Port wine. Methuen was the name of the British envoy at the time and I have seen a silver wine label inscribed Methuen, for this name became associated with Port. The seven authors are all Portuguese and mostly academics. No index is to be lamented.

**Walking Holy Family
XVIII century
Medeiros de Almeida Museum**

Number 6
December 2002

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU
ALL!