

NEWSLETTER

Absolutism, Constitutionalism and the Failure of Liberalism in Portugal

The forty-year period from 1810 to 1850 saw numerous changes in the governance of Portugal although the monarch still played a central role in the political life of the period. Against a background of dynastic struggle, Portugal changed from an absolute to a constitutional monarchy and in fact there were three different constitutions within the period. The talk will outline the dynastic conflict between Dom Pedro and Dom Miguel (The War of the Two Brothers), as well as the attempts by liberal elements to create a liberal state. This lecture will explain why in the end Portugal continued as a very conservative country in which the liberals were relegated to the cafés and debating clubs (including the cortes) of Lisbon and Porto.

**ABSOLUTISM, CONSTITUTIONALISM
AND THE FAILURE OF LIBERALISM IN
PORTUGAL 1810 - 1850**
BY RON B THOMSON

LAGOA - MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
TUESDAY 21 AT 6.00 PM

TAVIRA - MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
FRIDAY 24 AT 11.00 AM

FADO
BY PETER KINGDON BOOKER
TAVIRA - MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
MONDAY 13 AT 6.00 PM

**Please see page 2 for details of the only
concert in the Eastern Algarve by the
famous fabulous and fantastic
OXFORD FIDDLE GROUP**

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MARCH

Tuesday 27 at 6.00 pm, Lagoa

Friday 30 at 11.00 am, Tavira

The Visigothic State

by Peter Kingdon Booker

Monday 5 at 6.00 pm Tavira

**Algarve Wildlife: What to Look for in
Spring**

by Clive Viney

Fado

Ever since we arrived in Portugal, I have been fascinated by *fado*. What is it? Who sings it? What do they sing about? How can we tell whether a song is a *fado*? I have begun to look a little more deeply into the world of Severa, of Amália and Mísia and Marisa, of Marceneiro, Carlos Ramos, Max and Vicente da Câmara and I have discovered that *fado* is properly a Lisbon phenomenon, and that *canção de Coimbra* with its different style and instrumentation was a later development. The song subjects of the *fado* tradition are many but they were originally concerned with royalty, nobility, bullfighting as well as lost love, melancholy and *fado* itself. As *fado* is a living art form, style and subject matter are always evolving as new artists arrive on the scene and recently *fado* has been recognised as an example in UNESCO's list of World Intangible Heritage. Join me on my journey of discovery of the purely Portuguese world of *fado* and *saudade*.

Peter

LIVE AT TAVIRA GARDEN RESTAURANT

ON THE 125 JUST 1 KM EAST OF THE VELA VENTO ROUNDABOUT

OXFORD FIDDLE GROUP

SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 12.30 PM
ROAST LUNCH €18

Roast 2 course lunch (fish and vegetarian options available) to include convert and water. Plus an opportunity to hear the ever popular Oxford Fiddle Group who are appearing in the Algarve for the third time! Early booking recommended!

Following two highly successful tours of the Algarve, the Oxford Fiddle Group will be back again in February playing a repertoire of English, Irish, Scottish and American music with origins in folk, country and classical music. The Group play tunes from mournful ballads to catchy hornpipes and foot-tapping jigs. They have recorded 2 CD's: *Bonny Kate* and *Beyond the Spires* and they have performed in Germany, Ireland and France. The group is always well received, notably through their interaction with the audience as well as their superb technical ability.

To book please contact: Lynne.booker@iol.pt / 281 971 567 or meijnderts@hotmail.com / 910044654