

NEWSLETTER

THE EARTHQUAKE OF 1755 IN THE ALGARVE

The Earthquake of 1755 was the biggest such event ever recorded in Europe, and is known as the Lisbon Earthquake, partly because Lisbon suffered so much damage, and partly because the main records that we possess have come down to us from the English residents of the city. Yet the epicentre of this seismic event was near the Algarve, and the Kingdom of the Algarve suffered immense destruction. The method of recording this destruction has enabled historians and seismologists to determine an accurate picture of events in the natural world and of the effects on this poor and backward part of Portugal. This lecture will cover the destruction of Lisbon, but will concentrate on happenings in the Algarve and the positive outcomes from this disaster.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

MONDAY 4 at 6 pm

Municipal Library, Tavira

TUESDAY 12 at 6 pm

Municipal Library, Lagoa

The Art of the Vatican

by Mary Mountford de Hunt

TUESDAY 19 at 6 pm

Municipal Library, Tavira

Debate on Climate Change

with David Johnson, Clive Jackson,

Peter Booker and Martin Stroomer

FRIDAY 22 at 11 am

Municipal Library, Tavira

TUESDAY 26 at 6 pm

Municipal Library, Lagoa

Vasco da Gama

by Peter Kingdon Booker

SATURDAY 5

Bela Romão Croquet Club 6 pm

talk and dinner €28 pp

The Battle of Salamanca

by Peter Kingdon Booker

TUESDAY 22

Municipal Library, Lagoa, 6 pm

FRIDAY 25

Municipal Library, Tavira 11 am

The Earthquake of 1755 in the Algarve

By Peter Kingdon Booker

THURSDAY 31

Pessoa's Café, Tavira 7.30 pm

31st January, the Republican holiday

by Peter Kingdon Booker

31 January, the Republican Holiday

The first Republic was founded in Portugal on 5 October 1910, and within a week the new authorities had suppressed fourteen religious national holidays and had marked the beginning of a new regime by founding five new holidays. They were as follows: 1 January as the Day of Universal Brotherhood (formerly Feast of the Circumcision); 5 October Day of the Republic; 1 December Autonomia da Pátria Portuguesa and Day of the Flag; 25 December Day of the Family (formerly Christmas Day); and 31 January Day of the Republican Revolt in Porto. Each of these holidays might be recognised today, except for the Day of the Republican Revolt in Porto. Here was a holiday celebration which meant a great deal to the new Republic. Why was this date important? Why did it become a national holiday?

When did it disappear from the national calendar? Why were all of the religious holidays suppressed? Join me for a brief look at the political and religious implications of the First Republic.

CONTACTS

lynne.booker@iol.pt 281 971 567

peter.booker@iol.pt 281 971 567

handlaro@hotmail.com website matters