

ALGARVE HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2019

JUNE

SUNDAY 16 at 17h00 Quintinha da Música €25
Varoujan Bartikian (cello) and Lucjan Luc (piano)
*with music by J S Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven
and Frédéric Chopin*

MONDAY 17 at 18h00 Tavira Library
The Ten Best Novels Ever - discussion
with Ellen Thomassen

TUESDAY 25 at 18h00 Lagoa Library *and*
FRIDAY 28 at 11h00 Tavira Library
The Twilight of the Pepper Empire
with Peter Kingdon Booker

The Twilight of the Pepper Empire

The Portuguese pepper empire was founded at the time of Vasco da Gama's epic voyage around the Cape of Good Hope in 1498, and flourished for much of the sixteenth century. But towards the end of that century, two fundamental difficulties challenged the royal monopoly. First, the disaster at Alcácer Quibir in 1578 robbed Portugal of its independent status, of much of its nobility and lastly of much of its wealth, as the Moroccans exacted gold in return for returning captured nobles. The consequence of the loss of its independent status was that the Dual Monarchy of Spain and Portugal was not able to give the right amount of care and attention to both empires, and Portugal suffered as the junior partner. The second difficulty, presenting eventually insuperable conditions, was the intervention of Dutch and English competition in eastern waters. How did the Portuguese respond to these challenges, both military and even more, economic and organisational? In this lecture, Peter Booker examines the reasons for the decline of the Portuguese Empire, explaining why Portugal under the Dual Monarchy was unable to modernise its trade systems when faced with successive crises.

JULY

SUNDAY 7 at 17h00 Quintinha da Música
Young People's Concert with students from the
Conservatório Regional, Faro - Free entry

The ten best novels ever:

Discussion with Ellen Thomassen

According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica a novel is "an invented prose narrative of considerable length and a certain complexity that deals imaginatively with human experience, usually through a connected sequence of events." When and where was the first novel written? Which influences contributed to its origin? What genres can be distinguished? Do different nationalities admire and enjoy distinctive forms of writing or can a universal preference for certain novels be found? After an introduction to the history of the novel by Ellen, let us discuss these factors and try to come up with definitions and answers. We may even make a list of the ten best novels ever!

Ellen Thomassen was born in The Netherlands and studied English Language and Literature at the universities of Leiden and Sheffield. She won a Fulbright Grant for the USA (Minneapolis) and did a general course in Toronto. The first ten years of her career were spent teaching English – from zero level to proficiency – at a grammar school (both teenagers and mature students), after which she moved on to the Fontys University for Professional Studies (formerly Eindhoven Polytechnic) where she developed and taught courses to students of Electrical Engineering and worked as a tutor, mentor, counsellor, quality manager and coordinator. After retiring and emigrating to Portugal she is now an enthusiastic member of Tavira book club.

Varoujan Bartikian (cello)
Lucjan Luc (piano)

Quintinha da Música, Sunday 16 June at 17h00

p r o g r a m m e €25

Johann Sebastian Bach Cello Suite no 1

1685 - 1750

BWV 1007 G Major *cello solo*

Ludwig van Beethoven 12 Variations on Handel's Theme

1770 - 1827

See the conquering hero comes

from **Judas Maccabaeus**

WoO 45 G major

Ludwig van Beethoven 7 Variations on Mozart's Theme

1770 - 1827

Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen

from **The Magic Flute**

WoO46 E flat major

I N T E R V A L

Frédéric Chopin Cello Sonata

1810 - 1849

Op 65 G minor

To book contact: lynne.algarvehistory@gmail.com 281 971 567

tapas by Maria

Concert series sponsored by Algarve History Association