

# Rotary Club Estoi Palace

## Newsletter

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Service Above Self



# Rotary



# Estoi Palace International



# RCEPI Newsletter

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**Rotary Club  
Estoi Palace  
International**

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## MICROFINANCING IN SÃO TOMÉ



At a Future Vision meeting held by RCEPI 3 years ago to determine the way forward for the Club, one of our goals, internationally, was to help people learn to help themselves by giving them the resources to achieve that. It was agreed that we would particularly like to assist people in a former Portuguese colony, preferably women if possible.

Despite emails to various Clubs in Africa no responses were received. This all changed when the Chair of our Youth Committee, Natacha Nowak, paid a visit to São Tomé and Príncipe. This small African country and former colony, is located very close to the equator with a population of under 200,000 people in an area of 17 square kilometres. With a population of around 165,000 it is the second smallest country in Africa. The economy is based on agriculture and fishing.

Natacha visited the Rotary Club of São Tome, which has been in existence for 20 years and has 18 members. She met their President, Jaime Oliveira and explained the concept of microfinancing to the members.



The Club was very keen to take advantage of this opportunity to help within their local community. This illustrates how important it is to have the chance to explain ideas face to face.

RCEPI will be giving a loan of 500 euros to help 16 local women involved in the fishing industry. Initially 4 women will receive 125 euros each which they will repay within 3 months and then another 4 women will receive 125 euros each and so on over the period of a year.

RC Sao Tome are in the process of arranging all the paperwork that is required with personal documentation from all the women involved and ensuring that all the other bureaucratic requirements are met.

RCEPI is delighted to be involved in this programme and plan to continue with other microfinancing projects in the future.



## RCEPI HELPS CASA DO POVO ACCESS



Rotary Club Estoi Palace has been providing support to Estoi's Casa do Povo, in various ways, for a number of years.

Our Club's latest helping hand to Casa do Povo in Estoi became a reality in mid February when we arranged the installation of a wheelchair friendly metal access ramp to the building. It was made in three sections, from the sidewalk, up the three first steps followed by a final one step to the entrance door.

The ramp itself was manufactured and installed by Metalgarve a local metal working firm based in Bordeira. Our Youth Service Chair, Natacha Nowak, had arranged with the owner, Mr. Joaquim Gago Nunes, for Jean-Baptiste Mondon, a French student metal worker from Tours in France, to work for Metalgarve as an intern during the making of the ramp.

Joaquim was very happy to assist us with the manufacture and installation of the ramp and ensuring it complied with all safety requirements and kindly donated the third ramp free of charge. The other ramps were paid for via charitable donations to RCEPI.

The management team at Casa do Povo were delighted to receive our assistance and RCEPI is glad to be of help in the local community again.

## UPDATE ON BEATRICE



Beatrice Guerreiro, who RCEPI are sponsoring at Faro University, came along to lunch to give us an update on her progress at University. Practising her English she told us how much she is enjoying her course and the whole experience of university life. She thanked RCEPI for giving her this opportunity as it would have been difficult for her to realise her ambition without our help and support.



## São Lourenço Choir bring Broadway to Lethes Theatre in Faro - 15th April



RCEPI rotarian, Agnete Sylvan, joined the São Lourenço Choir 3 years ago. Numbers change but currently the choir has around 30 members, a mix of sopranos, altos and baritone under the musical direction of Joyce Whitelaw. The choir is based in the São Lourenço Cultural Centre. The choir will be bringing us a musical extravaganza at a fund raising concert being held on Friday, 15th April, at the Lethes Theatre in Faro. The choir will be treating us a selection of songs from Broadway musicals, through the decades, including West Side Story, My Fair Lady and many, many more songs. This will be a very entertaining evening raising funds for the Algarve Oncology Association and other Rotarian charities. **Tickets are only 12 euros and can be obtained by contacting Agnete on [agnete@rotaryestopalace.org](mailto:agnete@rotaryestopalace.org).**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY— UPCOMING EVENTS



**20th May** Bob Dylan Tribute concert raising funds to help the elderly in the community with hot food distribution. Contact Natacha, - [914 230 732](tel:914230732) or Kent, [916 175 259](tel:916175259) for further information.

**28th May White Night** 20.00 Faro Catering College, Entrance 20 euros. Everybody to bring their own food and dress in white. Profits from this "Jantar de Solidaridade" will go to Re-food, an organisation collecting un-sold food and distributing it to the needy. Contact [moc@rotaryestopalace.org](mailto:moc@rotaryestopalace.org) for more de-

**15th June** 17.00 Vilamoura Casino fundraiser in aid of the Portuguese Institute of Oncology, see if you can score a goal against the great goalkeeper Ricardo.



## RCEPI SEND STUDENT TO SUMMER CAMP

Short term youth exchanges are an integral part of the RI programme and are a chance for students between 15 and 19 to experience the culture of another country alongside other like minded students.

Following a selection process of written applications and personal interviews RCEPI chose Marta for her enthusiasm, level of English and family circumstances, to attend a summer camp in Paulsdorf at Lake Malter near Dresden sponsored by RC Freital in District 1880.

The camp motto is: Saxony – enjoy nature, sports, sightseeing and people. Marta along with 22 other young people from all over Europe will have the opportunity to experience climbing, diving, rafting, archery, bowling, and swimming coupled with sightseeing in Dresden, Meissen and Freiberg. RCEPI will be covering the costs of her journey, activities and insurance with the RC Freital meeting her other costs.



## DONATION TO THE ASSOCIACAO EQUITACAO DEFICIENTES DO ALGARVE (A.E.D.A).

RCEPI were delighted to be able to respond to a request from the A.E.D.A regarding sponsorship of a rider for this year. The Association arranges riding therapy for young Portuguese adults and children with various disabilities with morning sessions held at Pinetrees Riding Centre in Almancil. The children and young adults who participate attend either the Faro based A.P.P.C (the centre for Cerebral Palsy) and A.A.P.A.C.D.M (the centre for people with mental disabilities and/or learning problems).

The riding therapy has excellent therapeutic benefits for the participants. If you would like to volunteer to help at these sessions, normally held Thursday and Friday mornings, from 9.30 to 12.00 please contact Rosemary on 964027677.



# INTERACT AND ROTARACT CLUBS



Rotaract, was declared as an official program of Rotary in 1968, through a framework of friendship and service.

The Rotaract Movement has a dynamic history and a fast growth with 8,232 clubs in 170 countries with 189,336 Rotaractors.

It is reckoned as one of the fastest growing movements having a rate of 2.24% PA

RCEPI are proud to be sponsoring the launch the Rotaract Club of Sao Bras. Inauguration with formation presentation and dinner on the 10th of April with 20 founder members. The officers are

President—Celine Louzeiro

Vice President—Joao Caetano

Secretary— Anthi Papadopoulou

Treasurer—Beatriz Guerreiro

Protocol—Paulo Antunes

They already have a busy couple of months ahead attending the

OPTO EU Conference (Education and Professional Development Fair) 4-6 May

Rotaract/Interact Conference Evora 13th-15th May

Mercadino Solidario SB Camara event May 2016.



With a view to forming an Interact Club, a presentation was given to the School in Estoi in March. Attended by DG elect Abilio Lopes, RC Tavira, Isabel Lopes, RC Tavira, RCEPI President Robin Wilson, RCEPI Youth Service Chair Natasha and Deputy Manuela Almeida, together with Diogo from Rotaract Tavira and Maria from Interact Tavira. The presentation explained Rotary in general and Interact specifically. This successful event created genuine interest in many of the children present and they decided to begin discussions about creating their own Interact Club and have already decided on their first project to aid the elderly in Estoi. The children were also invited to attend a Rotaract/Interact meeting at our Sao Bras office at the end of March.



## ROTARY BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

RCEPI member Shirley Duune met David at Four Seasons where he is a fitness instructor. When she told him she was a Rotarian instead of asking her what that was he told her his story. David came from a well to do family in Loures, near Lisbon. David had an excellent education but he was brought up quite strictly. In 2005, at 15 following the death of his mother, David was invited to attend a RYLA event "Rotary Youth Leadership Awards" in Olhao representing RC Loures. David admits that the prospect of an all expenses paid week in the Algarve was very attractive at the time.



When he arrived, he quickly realised that it was not a holiday as he met a group of dedicated young people who wanted to make a difference to the world in the future. David struck up numerous friendships during the week and enjoyed working within a team tackling various challenges. He met Marisa who was there representing RC Loule. She came from a much humbler family background, but supported by her parents she was an A student and involved in the arts. All the students kept in touch and arranged a mini RYLA event 6 months later back in the Algarve. Those from outside the Algarve staying in the homes of those that lived here. And the rest, as they say, is history, as Marisa could not get a place at Lisbon University so David came here to finish his studies in Loule. They have been together since 2005 and married in 2013. They both appreciate greatly the importance of Rotary in their lives, firstly because it allowed them to meet, but more importantly, it gave them the opportunity of being with a group their own age to discuss the future, and allowed them to define objectives and share dreams with other young people.

David visited our office in Sao Bras to attend a meeting about Rotaract and shared his experiences.

## MEMBERSHIP PIN



Rotarian Daniel da Silva receives his pin from Rotary International for sponsoring new member Guilhermina Correia. Mina has joined our Youth Service Committee and assists us with translating documents.



## RECOGNITION BY THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



At our meeting on the 23rd of February our incoming District Governor, Abilio Lopes, presented RCEPI member, and current Secretary, Pauline Burnham with her Paul Harris double sapphire pin in recognition of her regular donations to the Foundation at Rotary International, an organization which funds project for the needy around the world. RCEPI will be making a donation of 1000 US dollars to the RI Annual Fund.

## NEW ASSISTANT DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR THE 2016-17



RCEPI are delighted that their current President, Robin Wilson, will be taking on the role of Assistant District Governor in the coming Rotary year, assisting incoming DG Abilio Lopes. Robin will be responsible for RCEPI, RC Almancil, RC Silves, Rotary E Club Porches International, and RC Quarteira

Robin attended his first training course in February along with 19 other incoming ADGs for District 1960.. The 5 main goals for the coming year are

1. Extra ,hopefully final, effort to eradicate Polio
2. Youth, it is the dream of DG to have each club in District create an Interact or Rotaract Club
3. Membership project and telling our story
4. Using Social Media to promote Rotary
5. Encourage Clubs to donate 40 euros per month to the Rotary Foundation



## LOCAL POET WITH THE ROTARY ETHIC



Local Historian, Peter Kingdon Booker, came to the Club to give us an interesting talk about famous Algarvians. Antonio Aleixo was born in Vila Real Santo Antonio but moved to Loulé when he was 7. Semi illiterate he struggled to make a living to support his wife and family of 14 children. His life was filled with poverty and disappointment and he watched his daughter die from TB, which he also contracted himself. Despite all this, he wrote witty poetic verse to help support his family. Despite life's difficulties he persevered and this poem sums up his and the Rotary spirit. Many will know him without realising it, as his statue stands outside a bar in the main Avenida in Loulé.

**The World will only be  
Better than now  
When we can do more  
For others than for ourselves**

**O Mundo só será  
Melhor do que até aqui  
Quando conseguire s fazer  
Mais pelos outros que por ti**

## FELLOWSHIP OUTING TO THE MONTEROSE OLIVE FARM

16 RCEPI members and guests enjoyed a fellowship visit to the award winning “Olive Farm” at Moncarapacho. Following a guided tour of an olive grove, it was explained that when their first plantings of 5 different types of olive tree were done in 1999 everything was arranged ensure maximum quality of the fruit from the spacing of the trees to the pruning, so that the trees receive the maximum sunlight into the centre of the canopy. Everything is organic, nothing is wasted, all waste is composted on site and returned to the soil. The olives are handpicked in the autumn over a 6-8 week period as the 5 varieties ripen at slightly different times and are immediately taken to a press which dates from roman times, where they are ground to a paste in a granite stone mill.



The oil is then extracted with state of the art modern equipment, filtered and stored in stainless steel containers until it is bottle. The result is gold medal winning Monterosa Extra Virgin Olive Oil.

A tasting of several different flavours of their olive oil followed with quite a few purchases taking place. The group enjoyed a pleasant lunch at the “Caravera” restaurant with plenty of fellowship.



## Upcoming Events March to June 2016

5th April	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker Gilberto Rodrigues “Caritas”
10th April	Rotaract Formation Presentation and Dinner
12th April	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Business Meeting
Friday 15th April	Fund raising Concert at Lethes Theatre Faro
19th April	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Committee Meetings
26th April	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker:- Alexandre Costa “Refood“
3rd May	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker:- Christine Fay “Living in the Gulf Countries - How to help when it is not allowed”
10th May	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Committee Reports & personal presentation Uwe Jonsson
17h May	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13.00—Club Assembly
20th May	Bob Dylan Tribute Concert in Sao Bras
24th May	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker: Marina Pasquill “International payments with Smart Currency Exchange
28th May	White Night” dinner, Catering College Courtyard, Faro.
31st May	RCEPI Weekly Meeting Fellowship Outing Venue to be advised
7th June	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Speaker Marilyn Medina Ribeiro “Beautiful gardens with little water
14th June	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Committee Reports & personal presentation Mina Correia
15th June	Fundraiser for Portuguese Institute of Oncology 5.00 pm Vilamoura
21st June	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Committee Meetings
28th June	RCEPI Weekly Meeting 13:00—Presidential Handover

As event scheduling can change at the last minute. Please always check with our MOC

For anyone wanting to know more about any of our events or to register for participation, please contact via e-mail the Secretary at [SECRETARY@ROTARYESTOIPALACE.ORG](mailto:SECRETARY@ROTARYESTOIPALACE.ORG)

If you wish to attend one of our meetings please let our Master of Ceremonies know by sending an e-mail with your details to [MOC@ROTARYESTOIPALACE.ORG](mailto:MOC@ROTARYESTOIPALACE.ORG)