



Trilobite

Preciosas memórias da evolução da vida na Terra, os fósseis de trilobites encontrados em Penha Garcia ou na Serra das Talhadas têm 468 milhões de anos! A replicação destes fósseis em prata delicada lembra-nos que o Geopark Naturtejo é um território mineiro, onde este precioso metal foi explorado, ao longo de séculos, como sub-produto das minas de chumbo de S. Miguel d'Acha, Salvaterra do Extremo, Segura ou Palvarinho, até ao início do séc. XX.



Com todo o detalhe,



CRUZIANA

GEOPARK NATURTEJO DA MESETA MERIDIONAL-EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK - MONTHLY REPORT

In this issue: - Geopark gold: new tourism product – Oleiros Pinewood Fair – Penha Garcia Templar - Cruziana: 60 months communicating with the Geoparks world...and more!



Olá/Hola/Ciao/Bonjour/Γειά σου/Hallo/God Dag/Salut/Zdravo/Hello/Ahoj/Helo/Helló/ Hei

Well, time is passing and Cruziana is the recognized stage for our evolution. Naturtejo Geopark celebrates five years of existence and role play that are transcript to our main vehicle of communication with the European and Global Geoparks networks. During half decade we managed to describe, in a suitable and honest way, sometimes criticizing, not always understood, the resulting and visible face of the daily work of a team which, more than to love the region where we live, loves what they do and falls in love everyday by the project Naturtejo Geopark, by new challenges that are constantly appearing as mushrooms on an Autumn prairie. Naturtejo Geopark may not survive without the passion of this working team, but conquered the recognition of practically all the institutions existing in the territory, starting to value a new strategy for responsible development based on the Earth Memory. A growing number of people living in the Geopark are learning to obtain gains from the international recognition of the geological heritage. We could not expect this was an easy and short-term task. From a territory and a country that ignore their geodiversity, we are nowadays creating alternative formula to raise awareness about geological knowledge at a national level, which are important to standardize with already existing strategies, but carrying own logic and a different way to underpin the future. Cruziana monthly report of Naturtejo Geopark will continue to be a great experience of communication in two languages, with free online distribution, inside and out and, more important, free of pression, internal or external. Congratulations to all of us!

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



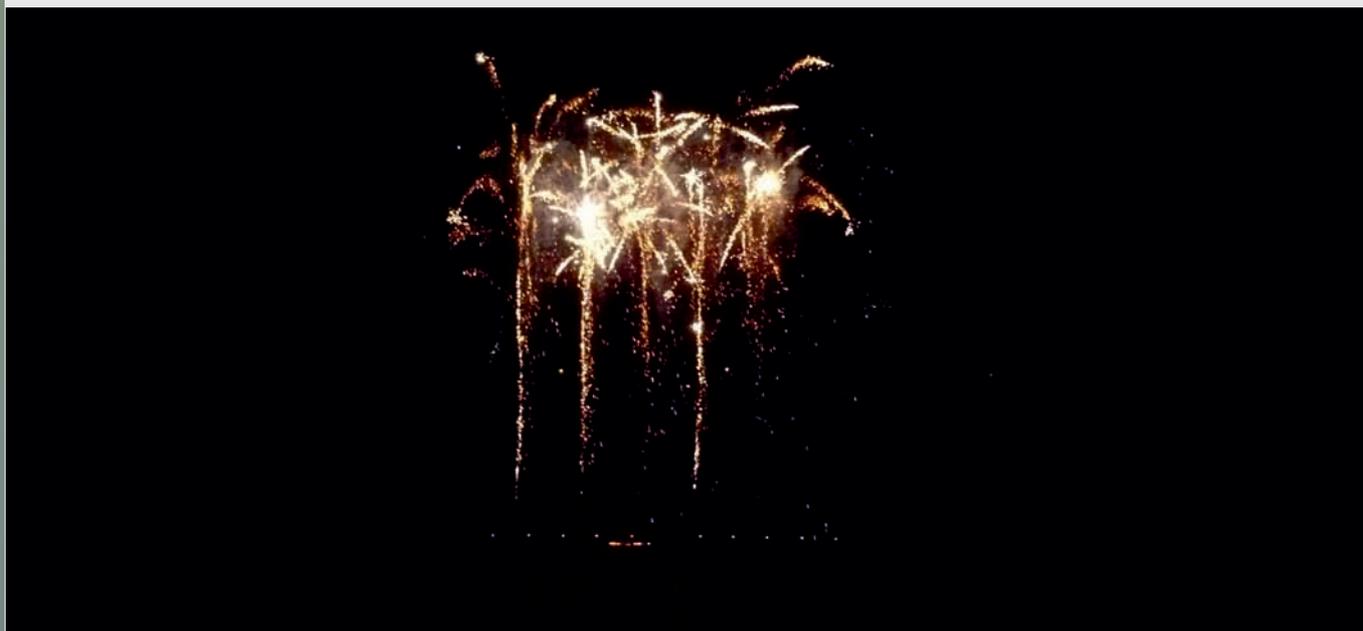
31st July to 2nd August – Geotourist vacations in Naturtejo Geopark. 4 people returned to Naturtejo Geopark for the second time on summer vacations. They were guided by Sara Canilho in a visit to the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia during the morning of that day. For the afternoon they visited Monsanto Inselberg. This small group rested in the territory for some more days, spending their time with geotourist activities, like the pleasant boat trip to Portas de Ródão.



10th to 14th August – Geopark in the great Pinewood Fair .

10th to 14th August – Geopark in the great Pinewood Fair. The XI edition of the Pinewood Fair focused on the celebrations of the International Year of the Forests. More than 200 exhibitors, among them Naturtejo Geopark, were present in what is considered one of the most important culture and local economy events occurring every year in the Geopark territory, attracting almost 60000 people coming from all over the country. The State Secretary of Local Administration, Paulo Júlio, opened the festival with the Mayor of Oleiros, José Marques and Armindo Jacinto, president of Naturtejo Geopark. During this festival, the music from the villages of Oleiros marked again privileged presence. Two books on the culture of the region were presented and an exhibition about the story of the Templars was opened to a large audience; the new map of the Oleiros Mountains Tour was massively distributed. Celebrating two years, the Jornal de Oleiros published a special edition, that was freely distributed, a newspaper considered a reference for the region and where Naturtejo Geopark has a constant presence. It is worth to mention the fantastic multimedia street show “Solum” organized by the company partner of Naturtejo Geopark, the Pirotecnia Oleirense, in collaboration with Companhia de Teatro do Mar theatre company, which crowded the Oleiros town centre and the night sky with an explosion of light, fire, music and a lot of art.

13th August – Smuggling by Luso-Spanish territories . Again the Group of Friends of Salvaterra do Extremo organized with the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the Spanish Ayuntamiento of Zarza-la-Mayor, with the support of Naturtejo Geopark, the trekking event of the year. With a number above the local population, 170 hikers walked by the Erges trails, starting in Spain and reaching Salvaterra do Extremo late evening, guided into the dark by the old smugglers. This meeting of borderland communities ended with a big dinner rich in local flavors.



17th to 18th August – Templar Penha Garcia– Medieval Fair. There were thousands of visitors waiting for the cool August nights to come to Penha Garcia for party through the History of this village. The Penha Garcia ethno days dressed armor and sword in the last years to revive mythical times. The royal procession launched the market that filled the streets of the village with old and new handicraft. It was reminded the historical importance and the role played by the Fugitives Land for the settlement of this borderland region. Dances and music inspired by the medieval period were constant, as well as the tournaments and exhibitions of skill, and also the assault to the Templar castle. The fire show was the climax, forming a fire cascade from Penha Garcia dam, in the limit of the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia.



20th August – From gold to jewel maker: new product of Naturtejo Geopark .

Naturtejo Geopark is developing a new geoproduct created by the goldsmith tradition of several generations. The first inhabitants of this territory, the trilobites with almost 500 million years old well known here by their fossils that can be visited at Penha Garcia and were found also at Vila Velha de Ródão or Oleiros, are now being replicated using noble metals, such as silver or gold. Paulo Dias, goldsmith of the workshops of Febres, municipality of Cantanhede, one of the most important jewellery centres in Portugal, presented the result of his artist creation in a workshop developed at the Living Science Center of Proença-a-Nova. According to Paulo Dias, “older than gold only these trilobites 468 million years old: both exist abundantly in the region and it made sense to unite them in one single geoproduct that everyone can buy in the Geopark to bring a little bit of it back home as souvenir”. This is, without any doubt, a precious way of having two symbols of Naturtejo Geopark, at the geological and archaeological heritage levels that have contributed in such a way to showcase the region in the country and abroad.

A region rich in gold, where the testimonies of gold mining go back to the Roman Period or even to Calcolithic, being common and monumental the “conheiras” or “conhais” at the Tejo, Erges, Aravil, Tripeiro and Ocreza river terraces. Lands where gold is still a promise, recently with 5 requests for concession by Portuguese and abroad mining companies, with emphasis for the area of Sarzedas-Ribeira do Alvito. In Naturtejo Geopark finding gold is also a tourism activity, attracting ever more visitors. “- It is always found!” guarantee Naturtejo and the active tourism company Incentivos Outdoor, which develop the tourism product in pair with a diversified offer of Nature and Gastronomy tourism at the margins of Ocreza River, close to the village of Foz do Cobreão. With the support and know-how of locals which, in former times, were specialized in panning techniques, the new “rush” has been promoting the region at a national level, also internationally, and has a great potential for growth – this Aurifer Tagus of the Roman Pliny or the Portuguese novelist Almeida Garrett.

But Naturtejo Geopark went further on, presenting all the technological and creative process, from the finding of nice gold nuggets in river and stream alluvium, to their melting and sculpting as a precious jewel, in a new tourism program thought to discover the rich natural, archaeological and cultural heritage of this territory. In the scope of the Living Science in Summer, the Living Science Center of Proença-a-Nova, in collaboration with Naturtejo, organized two daily events “From Gold of Portas de Almourão towards the Jewel” that soon would be full and with a waiting list. Participants coming from all over the country to Proença-a-Nova spent a pleasant morning immersed in Ocreza river where, in the sands, they actually found 7 small gold nuggets. The natural landscape, the contact with Nature and the family or group of friends-based apprenticeship of panning techniques 3000 years old, have a priceless value at Ocreza river.

By the afternoon, and in the excellent facilities of the Living Science Center, participants could appreciate the "big fishing" with the help of a binocular lens and software capturing "the big picture" of all the gold nuggets together. Then, the workshop "From gold to Jewel: the art of the Goldsmith", developed by Paulo Dias brought practical explanation for some of the alchemies enriching our dreams for centuries...and also how is possible to enlarge a ring in a minute! Paulo Dias brought with him tradition of a coastal village that has been contacting the borderland territory for decades, when the goldsmith from Cantanhede came in his bike to buy gold or exchange it by earrings for the wedding or cords "for the Virgin".

The sudden and continuous rise of the price of metals is a guarantee that the new geoproduct of Naturtejo Geopark, a gold or silver trilobite, is a secure investment. And a wonderful souvenir of a well spent day, weekend or holidays, with so many things to discover here.

GEOPARK'S IMPACT IN MEDIA



Newspapers & www

- 29th July (Revista C) – Castelo Branco: Naturtejo develops quality brand for geoproducts
- 3rd August (Gazeta do Interior) – Naturtejo develops quality brand for geoproducts
- 3rd August (Presstur) – Trekking revive the Luso-Spanish smuggling route.
- 4th August (Reconquista) – Berkeley makes proposals to Naturtejo Geopark
- 4th August (Gazeta do Interior) – Naturtejo develops quality brand for geoproducts
- 8th August (www.cnoticias.net) – Naturtejo develops quality brand for geoproducts
- 8th August (Diário As Beiras) – Geopark from Castelo Branco promotes local products
- 8th August (www.ccdr.pt) – Geopark from Castelo Branco promotes local products
- 8th August (www.guarda.pt) – Geopark from Castelo Branco promotes local products
- 9th August (Povo da Beira) – Penha Garcia welcomes evento f the Templar period
- 10th August (Gazeta do Interior) – Idanha reminds miner times
- 11th August (Reconquista) – Templar Penha Garcia
- 11th August (Reconquista) – Mountain Tour
- 11th August (www.ladoeiro.blogspot.com) – Ladoeiro: Berkeley makes proposals to Naturtejo Geopark
- 17th August (Gazeta do Interior) - Oleiros distributes maps of the Mountain Tour
- 17th August (Gazeta do Interior) – Templar Penha Garcia during two days' party
- 23rd August (www.geoparkquadrilátero.org, Brazil) –Naturtejo Geopark develops jewels with the shape of fossils
- 23rd August (Diário as Beiras) –Naturtejo Geopark creates jewels with the shape of fossils
- 23rd August (www.aquemealentejo.blogspot.com) – From gold to the jewel maker: new product for Naturtejo Geopark
- 24th August (www.mm-animarte.blogspot.com) – From gold to the jewel maker: new product for Naturtejo Geopark
- 24th August (Gazeta do Interior) – Geopark creates jewels
- 25th August (Reconquista – 1st page) – Geopark creates gold Trilobite
- 25th August (Reconquista – 1st page) – Rally starts in the Pinewood
- 30th August (www.naturlink.sapo.pt) – Naturtejo Geopark renews website and launches tourist booking central for the region
- 30th August (Povo da Beira) – Geopark Naturtejo – Jewels with the shape of fossils

GEOPARK'S IMPACT IN MEDIA



Radio & TV

4th July – Localvisão TV Castelo Branco – Discover climbing.

<http://videos.sapo.pt/64vm2GnjUKBMOccf6HWJ>

29th July – Localvisão TV Castelo Branco – XV Edition of the Borderland Fair

2nd August - Localvisão TV Castelo Branco – Borderland Fair beyond expectations.

<http://videos.sapo.pt/8K06m8oFz7Ep9rQSvw5I>

4th August – Rádio Condestável regional radio – Oleiros – Municipality bet on the “Evasion from the sameness”

24th August – Rádio Cova da Beira regional radio – There is gold in the Geopark!

24th August – Rádio Clube de Monsanto local radio –Naturtejo Geopark creates jewels with the shape of fossils



PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Jacinto, A. Geopark Naturtejo: a união faz a força...Revista Viver, 11: pp. 30.

Website LLP GEOschools project : <http://geoschools.geol.uoa.gr>

www.naturtejo.com
geoschools.geol.uoa.gr

<http://cigeoq2011.ipcb.pt>

