

Cruziãana

मासिक वार्षिक रिपोर्ट
monthly report of the Geopark Naturtejo Meseta Meridional

n. 25!



In this issue: – Naturtejo makes history in Ichnia 2008 – Geology & cookies – Meet the Paradise in Czech – Discussing the social role of Museum *and more...*

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Olá/Hola/Ciao/Bonjour/Γειά σου/Hallo/God Dag/Salut/Zdravo/Hello

Kamptal Geopark said goodbye to the European Geoparks Network. I hope it rather be a “see you later”. Many geoparks have been facing the problem of selling rocks, fossils, minerals or gems under their roofs, as museums and shops. This problem is considered in the EGN chart since the beginning of the Network so geoparks have been applied to EGN knowing the fact that EGN completely disapproves the selling of geological objects. After three years, many reevaluated geoparks face the same problem: they can be a strong partner, have a profound commitment with the territory and the communities, are developing brilliant educational programs and working actively with EGN but they are selling local and foreigner geological objects. The result will be a yellow card and therefore the geopark will have two years to make fossils and minerals disappear from the gift shop. That was what happened with the recently visited Bohemian Paradise Geopark. I wonder what happen when geoparks, during the evaluation mission, forget to show museums where geological objects coming from every parts of the world are being sold: it seems they get a green card and the enthusiasm of all the other partners. Since Victorian times rocks, minerals and fossils collections are part of our world of knowledge, the world of museums. How many geologists don't have geological collections at home even if they are only souvenirs from the last geological congresses? How many geologists didn't start as mineral or fossils collectors during the adolescence?

In Portugal protection of geological heritage started with the team of the National Museum of Natural History. One of the most famous actions they developed to promote geology was the International Fair of Fossils, Minerals and Gems which, for more than 20 editions, has brought dozens of thousands of enthusiasts and for sure was responsible for the initial click of some geologist careers. This was the first geological Fair in Portugal and now there are almost 10 every year promoted by museums, municipalities and even universities in all country. Even if we don't know exactly the provenance of many of the minerals and fossils the fairs, always with pedagogical side events, are contributing to increase the awareness on the conservation of geological heritage in Portugal: the declaration of thousands of fair's visitors contributed for the non-destruction of a dinosaur tracksite by the construction of an highway that is now a national natural monument. The raise of political awareness on geological heritage in Portugal was fed somehow by these fairs. I was a collector and a seller myself during a period when a small group of young geology students joined efforts with their own savings to have money to create legally a paleontological research group. But for every single mineral, rock and fossil that we sold we create a small card with the resume all the pedagogical information we could give. We spent so many hours preparing the cards but our effort becomes an example to some other professional sellers. Every fossil or mineral sold by us was a piece of geological culture and awareness on the importance of geological heritage. And with the selling we usually had exhibitions and other activities to promote our loved geology. I think shops like in the Turnov Museum, with jewels and geological handcraft, can achieve other publics than geological collectors. They shouldn't need to close the shop in order to get a green card besides the other problems they will solve in less than two years. Shopping can be transformed in a highly pedagogical moment.

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They just need to sell the geological objects with as much as information they can give. And the shop itself can be prepared to raise the conscious on the social conditions minerals and fossils are collected for selling. My personal opinion is that EGN gives too much importance to selling of minerals and fossils. We must remember the importance of some of these professional sellers when they allow discovering new minerals and fossils specimens for science. For me it is much more important the care of a child for a fossil than two thousand specimens stored in a cave of a museum. While these fossils will hardly get the attention of researchers that fossil bought and loved might be the beginning of an environmental conscience about the impact of human activities and the overexploitation of resources. This informed society will be more aware about the conservation of Nature including in it the abiotic component in its own right. No one loves without knowing and the importance of geoparks is to find new ways of communicate love for the planet we love.



Cruziana

Geopark Naturtejo Meseta Meridional is...



Armino Jacinto
Agronomist Engineer
Chairman of Naturtejo
Vice-president of Idanha

Carlos Neto de Carvalho
Geologist
Scientific Coordinator
Researcher

Rui Marques
Biologist
Marketing

Rafael André
Economist
Financial Planner

Cristina Pregoça
Journalist
Administrative

Jesus Alarcón
Commercial
Agent for Spain



Fátima Rodrigues
Agronomist Engineer
Tourism/Communication

Eliane Antunes
Financial Manager
Tourism/Webpage

Alice Marcelo
Accountant
Administration assistant

Pedro Martins
Ecotourism
Tourism/Photographer

Eddy Chambino
Anthropologist
Researcher

Nuno Capelo
Marketing
Marketing/Designer



Manuela Catana
Teacher of Natural
Sciences
Educational Programs

Andrea Baucori
Geologist
Exhibition tools/Research

Miguel Costa Silva
Doctor of Law
Lawyer

Tiago Oliveira
Management
Events

Pedro Dias
Environment Engineer
Planner/Tourism Fairs

Joana Rodrigues
Geologist
Geoheritage

The team work!

Where...

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1) Activities



1st-5th September – **Naturtejo**

Geopark makes history in Ichnia 2008. By finding the roots of Ichnology as science in the beginning of 16th century with Leonardo da Vinci, Andrea Baucon proposed the “Age of Naturalists” in the history of ichnological research. His talk was one of the 4 introductory talks in the opening ceremony of Ichnia 2008 – the 2nd International Congress of Ichnology that took place in the Aula Magna of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. More than 120 people coming from all the continents attended to this military ruled congress several times touching the impolite. Despite of several problems during the congress the pre-meeting fieldtrip to Holy Cross Mountains were great and we got the possibility to learn a lot about Polish ichnological record, ichnosites and the leisure & pedagogical Jura Park. Andrea Baucon presented also two posters about the ichnolagerstätte of Pramollo Basin and neoichnological studies in lagoonal settings from the area of Trieste, both in Italy. Carlos Neto de Carvalho was also there to present a talk about the crustacean trace record from the Lusitanian Basin, representing some of the results of a joint project between the Naturtejo Geopark and the National Museum of Natural History. Carlos also presented two posters, one about some curious occurrences in a Geopark’s geomonument and other about the first vertebrate footprints from all the Cenozoic from Portugal.

2nd September – **Geopark’s educational programs online and in schools.** The booklet on the Geopark’s educational programs is now available online for download in www.geoparknaturtejo.com. This pdf version was sent by e-mail to all schools existent in Portugal. The printed version of the booklet was delivered in every school from the Geopark’s territory and is being distributed to all the teachers that visit Naturtejo Geopark.



6th September – **Geology in Summer outside the Geopark.** The national Program Living Science aims to raise the awareness of

Portuguese geological heritage namely through Geology in summer initiatives. These initiatives are developed by many institutions from University to local associations that are responsible for developing thematic visits and guiding them. This year Naturtejo Geopark promoted several activities indoors and two thematic trails in geological important areas in the West coast and Northeast Portugal. Unfortunately the online registration does not work properly in time and activities are free of charge which means that people can be registered in many activities and quite at the last moment, filling quickly the total number of participants and leaving no possibility for other potentially interested geotourists. That was what happened in the Alpajares trail where Joana Rodrigues and Carlos Neto de Carvalho travelled more than 200 km to guide a listed group that was transformed, at the defined moment of beginning, in just one participant. Two guides for one geotourist! But we all agree to do the trail in this wonderful landscape of Poiares syncline and the guided visit was transformed in remarkable moments sharing different experiences and knowledge. A day in the field full of discoveries and a very well spent time.

6-7th September – **Egitânia Classic Rally**. The 16th Rally of old cars was organized by an association of Castelo Branco. 60 participants crossed the amazing landscapes of the borderland. Naturtejo supported the logistics in order to guide the participants towards the best places to eat & sleep. Tiago Oliveira followed accomodation, meals and coffee-breaks with the support of the villages of Rosmaninhhal, Salvaterra do Extremo and Ladoeiro.

6-8th September – **Calling for sex is a tourism product in the Geopark!** This tourist program was specially prepared for this month and aims the direct contact with nature. Tiago Oliveira guided a couple to observe deers in their habitat, taking also profit of the colorful landscapes, the aromes of plants, the fresh air to find new energies, right in the heart of Tejo Internacional Natural Park and in the Vultures Trail. This program is developed during the mating season of deers when is spectacular to see and hear the power of males defending harens of desired females. This is life!



7th September – **Discovering old mines by the old tracks**. An adventure in borderland in the last event of geology in summer! 6 four wheel cars started from Salvaterra do Extremo to discover the old mining activity following almost

forgotten tracks. Always accompanied by the dry but beautiful landscapes nearby Tejo Internacional Natural Park and Erges River the geotourists found the geological background of the mineralogical diversity as well as some examples of mines coming from the 19th century and a processing plant of barite. This dusty day finished in Monfortinho hot springs to realize local changes of needs and demand that reflects more universal cultural changes: need for leisure, tourism and the increase importance of fresh water in a global warming period. The car route was organized by Casa do Forno company with the help of Joana Rodrigues and the visit was guided by Carlos Neto de Carvalho.

9-11th September – **Gastronomic show in the European Parliament.** Naturtejo Geopark participated together with several institutions related with Tourism of Centre Region in a Gastronomic Show occurred in the European Parliament, Brussels, through the invitation of the Portuguese European Deputy Armando França. For this event Naturtejo cooperated with several companies from the territory offering typical products such as cheese, cookies, honey, jellies, pates, olive oil, sausages, liquors, all representing the tasty gastronomy of Naturtejo Geopark. Armindo Jacinto was there to give the necessary guidance.



10-14th September – **Oleiros municipality promotes Geopark in Rally Dakar Series Lisboa-Portimão 2008.** Euromilhões Pax-Rally Dakar Series is the main event of car sports in Portugal with world impact by TV. Two stages of this rally crossed the Naturtejo Geopark passing in all its municipalities. All the municipalities got the opportunity to show themselves but only Oleiros municipality presented the Geopark with a new leaflet about Oleiros geological heritage and several other promotional material.

13-15th September – **Special summer program.** For this summer Naturtejo prepared a special program for those who would like to visit the geomonuments on their own time. A couple freely discovered the charming of the Geopark.



15th September – **Nature, tradition and taste in a new concept of lodging far in Portugal.** Casa do Forno is a new company of lodging and traditional bakery that opened in the small village of Salvaterra do Extremo. With the support of Naturtejo Geopark two young geologists with their parents invested their all life savings to recover the communitary hooven of Salvaterra do Extremo, where traditional bread and cookies are now made, and to build a bed & breakfast facility with 6 thematic rooms reminding local heritages. Besides this new building right in the middle of an almost deserted, but quite impressive village, where it is possible to eat also “trilobites” cookies and the “granite” cake or delicious pizzas with names of plate tectonics. It is very interesting to assist local people asking for trilobites or the Nazca pizza in a traditional bakery! Casa do Forno is distributing delicacies far as Castelo Branco in hotels and supermarkets. Besides teaching the mouth, Casa do Forno wants to open the minds to the local wonders with donkey rides, car routes, trekking. After all the Erges canyon in the Salvaterra’s granite is just there, right there in the heart of Tejo Internacional Natural Park, defended by a medieval tower and the Peñafiel castle. Casa do Forno is cooperating actively with the Naturtejo Geopark, the community and regional environmental associations holding workshops and thematic visits not only in Salvaterra do Extremo but also in several other geosites. They are participating in thematic fairs developed in the territory mostly during the summer and create thematic tourist programs for the weekend based on local customs and stories, national culture icons and local geodiversity. Casa do Forno opened officially with the help of local people and the presence of Armindo Jacinto, the president of the village, Carlos Neto de Carvalho, Joana Rodrigues and Pedro Dias. In the Far East of Portugal Casa do Forno may be an extension of Naturtejo Geopark ideals and purposes. Their success there will be our success in the demand to improve quality of living in the territory. More information in www.casado forno.com.pt.

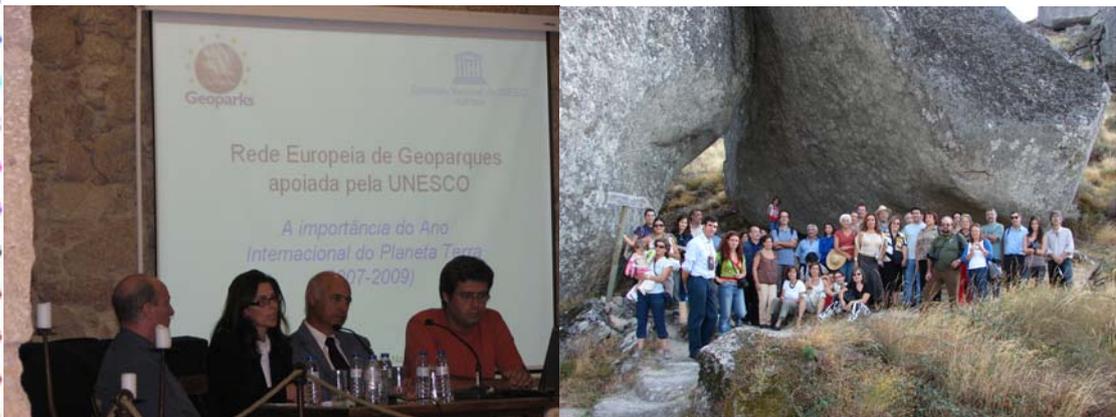


18-21st September – **Bohemian Paradise with a more efficient EGN CC meeting: sexy!** Bohemian Paradise Geopark organized the 22nd EGN Coordination Committee Meeting attended by about 60 delegates from almost all 33 geoparks. The meeting occurred between a not very comfortable restaurant at Nova Paka and the Academy of Turnov. The official reception of EGN members was made by more than 2 hours of speeches standing up and some traditional dancing, but the best was the warm welcome of the directors of the Geopark, Martina and Thomas that took care of the two representatives of Naturtejo Geopark, Carlos Neto de Carvalho and João Manso, and all the rest. The meeting showed several improvements concerning the distribution of documents, discussion of application dossiers and decision taking. There was more time for discussion of the topics and to start to define ways of cooperation based on regional networks. Unfortunately the Mediterranean geoparks couldn't find links for cooperation considering their geological heritage among a shower of ideas they got. Also unfortunately was the going out of Kamptal Geopark from the EGN due to different opinions related with the selling of geological objects. But the improved Rocca di Cerere Geopark is back to the group and Marble Arch Caves is now the first transnational geopark! Carlos Neto de Carvalho chaired a session for the first time and got a very lively discussion about new applications to EGN, perhaps too enthusiastic for his first time in this job. Bohemian Paradise tried to show us why they got a yellow card by visiting a shooting place that is also considered by some as a geosite (where is the petrified forest?) and the local museum in Nova Paká where a wonderful collection of fossils and minerals is stored almost without information or reason. But the Turnov museum is quite good, presenting a very impressive collection of minerals and gems as well as jewelry. Also important was the presence of Dr. Ladislav Miko, DG Environment of European Commission to understand Geoparks are not an exclusive club but are really concern about protection of environment as a whole. An unforgotten moment was the vernissage at the very beautiful Hall of the Museum with Musica Fortuna Chorus and a very provocative (for lonely geologists) cascade of beauty in a fashion shown through the history of jewelry with gems from this region. Perfect in shapes, colors and emotional sensations!

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20-21st September – **Medieval Fair in S. Pedro de Vir-a-Corça.** Idanha-a-Nova municipality organized a very successful medieval fair to celebrate the Fair of S. Pedro de Vir-a-Corça. The tents were settled once again surrounding S. Pedro sanctuary right in the middle of gigantic granite boulders. The natural and historical scenery was perfect for knight battles, magician and fire performances, theatre plays, donkey rides and traditional food. Armindo was between the noble men who read the Fair Chart from 1308 to hundreds of citizens that participated in these two days of historical memories and a lot of fantasy.



25-28th September – **Seminar in Idanha-a-Nova discussed Geotourism and local development.** 50 museologists met in Idanha-a-Nova to discuss “Geotourism, Local Development and Museology”, during the XVIII Conference on the Social Role of Museum. This conference besides an introduction to the theme and case studies held in the Cultural Forum and Raiano Cultural Centre, the headquarters of Naturtejo Geopark, was enriched with inspection visits in Idanha-a-Nova municipality. Guided by the town of Idanha-a-Nova, the historical villages of Monsanto and Idanha-a-Velha as well as the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, participants found some museums as examples, like the Gastronomy Museum, the Palaeozoic Museum, the Olive Press Complex and the Cathedral. In Monsanto the challenge was quite high, leading almost all the participants to climb to the castle and to see one of the most impressive views from the Geopark. Joana Rodrigues and a local guide present some information about the geological importance and history of this granite inselberg. In Penha Garcia, participants traveled in time with Manuela Catana across the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and through the Fossils Trail, being surprised by the geological beauties, trilobite trace fossils and the water mills. This area, being considered the birthplace of Naturtejo Geopark, is a truly exomuseum that





is being harmed again by a project that imposes 4 m lamps in a landscape where nature astonishes by its own right. During the conference where participants came from all the country including Madeira Island and many associates from the International Movement for a New Museology attended to the debate UNESCO Geoparks and Local Development by the representative of the National Commission for UNESCO, Elizabeth Silva and Cultural Routes and Identities, by the anthropologist Paulo Longo. Routes, Tourism and Museology were discussed by Liliana Póvoas, from the National Museum of Natural History, and Judite Primo, from Lusófona University, both MINOM associates. Geotourism subject was described considering the Naturtejo Geopark experience by Armindo Jacinto, presidente of Naturtejo, Carlos Neto Carvalho, scientific coordinator of Naturtejo Geopark and the geoconservacionist Joana Rodrigues. Besides talks and plenary debates, there was time for party and relax in the welcome dinner at the Baroa Restaurant, the toast at the sunset in Casa do Forno, the traditional eating break at Frágua Bar, the night visit to the Agriculture Exhibition at Raiano Cultural Centre followed by films presentations and the Geology & Art short movies by Andrea Baucon at the Cultural Forum. The opening session received the welcome speech of the Mayor of Idanha-a-Nova, Álvaro Rocha and the speech of the president of MINOM international and president of the Lusófona University, Mário Moutinho. The closing ceremony of this Conference was conducted by Alfredo Tinoco, leader of MINOM Portugal and Armindo Jacinto that presented one of the most brilliant speeches known from him, with intelligence and lots of emotional links to the territory. This conference where prevails the discussion of the themes between equals was organized by Naturtejo and MINOM with the strong support of Idanha-a-Nova municipality and several local companies and traditional food producers.

28th September – **Opening of the new trail “Travel through the bones of Earth” in Proença-a-Nova.** Armindo Jacinto was invited to open a new trail in Proença-a-Nova. The PR6 – “Travel through the bones of Earth” is a trail that enables to go around Talhadas mountain with a great potential for geological interpretation and observation of geological landscapes. Also in the same day the municipality of Proença-a-Nova opened a new climbing school right in the heart of Almourão geomonument, in a quartzite scarp, that is house for several endangered species of birds. Despite of having panels restricting the climbing activity between the summer and December they hope climbers have an environmental consciousness...

3) Geopark Impact in Media

Newspapers/Magazines

- September (Ensino Magazine) – “Minho visits Geopark”
- 2nd September (Tribuna Desportiva) – “International Working Camp – Eight nationalities together for Penha Garcia”
- 3rd September (Expresso do Pinhal) – “Fundacion Geoparques de Venezuela trains technicians in the Naturtejo Geopark”
- 3rd September (Gazeta do Interior) – “Monsanto since 70 years ago the most Portuguese village”

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- 9th September (Publico) – “Expo 2008: application of Tejo to world heritage presented Thursday”
- 10th September (Gazeta do Interior) – “Casa do Forno open the doors in Salvaterra do Extremo”
- 10th September (Gazeta do Interior) – “Proença presents tourism guide”
- 10th September (Gazeta do Interior) – “Proença is the capital of the sustainable forest”
- 11th September (Reconquista) – “S. Pedro de Vir-a-Corça chapel: Monsanto celebrates 700 years of the Fair Chart”
- 11th September (Reconquista) – “Proença from history to heritage – tourism guide presented”
- 11th September (Reconquista) – “Proença is the capital of the forest”
- 11th September (Destak) – “Tejo River is candidate to World Heritage”
- 14th September (Jornal de Nisa) – “Workshop in Urgeiriça has approved – Meeting against exploration of uranium in Nisa”
- 16th September (Povo da Beira) – “Casa do Forno – Salvaterra do Extremo has a new concept of lodging”
- 17th September (Gazeta do Interior) – “Castelo Branco is going to have delegation for tourism promotion”
- 18th September (Reconquista) – “Social role of museum – Idanha-a-Nova held workshop”
- 18th September (Reconquista) – “New enterprise in Salvaterra do Extremo – “Casa do Forno”reborn from Nature”
- 18th September (Raiano) – “Smuggling Trail – a crowd of participants”
- 19th September (What’s New at Global Geoparks Newsletter) – “Monthly Report of the Geopark Naturtejo Meseta Meridional – Issue 24”
- 19th September (What’s New at Global Geoparks Newsletter) – “Boom Festival bring 30000 people to the heart of the Naturtejo Geopark”
- 21st September (Der Tagesspiegel) – “Das Buch der Erde - Der Naturtejo ist der erste Geopark Portugals. Hier können Besucher auf der Fossilien-Route staunen”
- 23rd September (Povo da Beira) – “XVIII Seminar on the social role of Museum”
- 24th September (Gazeta do Interior) – “Medieval Fair again near Monsanto – Templars re-conquer S. Pedro sanctuary”
- 24th September (Gazeta do Interior) – “Local development and museology in debate”
- 25th September (Reconquista) – “Pieces of pre-history in the mountains of Oleiros”
- 25th September (Reconquista) – “Going to the Fair...as 700 years ago”

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27th September (RTP1 national television) – Carlos Neto de Carvalho was interviewed for Portugal Directo News about the Seminar on Geotourism, Museology and Local Development.



4) Publications

Scientific Contribution for Geosciences

- BAUCON, A. –The Da Vinci Ichnocode: Leonardo's trace fossils and the Age of Naturalists. In: A. Uchman (Ed.), Abstract Book, The Second International Congress on Ichnology, Cracow, Poland, August 29-September 8, 2008: 15.
- BAUCON, A. – GPS and GIS techniques applied to neoichnology: a case study from a temperate, lagoonal microbial-mat (Adriatic Sea, Italy). In: A. Uchman (Ed.), Abstract Book, The Second International Congress on Ichnology, Cracow, Poland, August 29-September 8, 2008: 15.
- BAUCON, A. & NETO DE CARVALHO, C. – Pramollo ichnolagerstätte: an open window through a Carboniferous fluvio-marine system (Carnic Alps, Italy-Austria) In: A. Uchman (Ed.), Abstract Book, The Second International Congress on Ichnology, Cracow, Poland, August 29-September 8, 2008: 16.
- NETO DE CARVALHO, C. – Mammalian footprints and trackways from the Late Pleistocene eolianites (SW Alentejano, Portugal). In: A. Uchman (Ed.), Abstract Book, The Second International Congress on Ichnology, Cracow, Poland, August 29-September 8, 2008: 90.
- NETO DE CARVALHO, C. – Arthropod-related *Nereites* in very shallow marine sandstones from the Lower Ordovician of Almourão geosite (Naturtejo Geopark, Portugal). In: A. Uchman (Ed.), Abstract Book, The Second International Congress on Ichnology, Cracow, Poland, August 29-September 8, 2008: 91.
- NETO DE CARVALHO, C., VIEGAS, P., BAUCON, A., RODRIGUES, N.P.C. & SANTOS, V.F. – Crustacean Trace fossils from the Lower Jurassic-Upper Cretaceous of the Lusitanian Basin (Portugal). In: A. Uchman (Ed.), Abstract Book, The Second International Congress on Ichnology, Cracow, Poland, August 29-September 8, 2008: 92.

Educational and Promotional publications