

## Member's Page

The 2002 enthronement was marked by an extraordinarily number of notable individuals from the many field to which members of the Confraria belong.

Álvaro Siza Vieira, António Barreto and Manuel de Oliveira were three of the notables enthroned on this occasion. The first is certainly one of the best known European architects worldwide and the designer of the present official Port Wine glass; the second, in addition to his having been born in the Douro Region where he first attended school, has written several books in the field of sociology in which he is an expert, that are invaluable to the Region and to Port Wine; last but not least, the third is the most famous Portuguese film director and the recipient of many awards at the finest film festivals, and has close families ties with property in the Douro Region..

As usually occurs during the moments before each ceremony, the new Confrades wait the moment of the procession, in small groups in the Portrait Room at the Bolsa Palace and in the adjoining corridors.

Jorge Monteiro, Chairman of the Port Wine Institute and the three personalities I mentioned above were chatting in one of these groups. I went over to greet them and very spontaneously, because that is how I felt at the moment, said: "Today, with your enthronement, the Confraria is living one of its finest hours."

António Barreto confessed: "I am the one who is greatly honoured" and his eyes shone with sincerity. Siza Vieira simply smiled. Manuel de Oliveira, said, with a twinkle in his eye: "I am ready and deserving".

I agreed with the great film director who, to make himself quite clear, added: "Before I left home I drank two glass of Port."

Later, at the Ball in the Customs House, there was Manuel de Oliveira, gaily tripping the light fantastic with his wife, not slowly and sedately that the slow tune called for.

Blessed is Port Wine and blessed are all those who drink it!

J.M.Pintão



## Events - Newsbits



### Cálem Renovation of the Wine Lodges.

At noon on September 8th, Cálem formally inaugurated its newly renovated wine lodges.

The ceremony, which was followed by lunch, was presided by the President of the Junta of Galicia, Manuel Fraga Iribarne, who has been a member of our Confraria since 24 June 1992 when he was awarded the rank of Cancelário.

Our Confraria was represented at the ceremony by our Chancellor.

### III Symposium on Alcohol and Road Safety.

Our Chancellor, Francisco Olazabal, represented our Confraria at this seminar, which was sponsored by LASVIN and held on 9 June at the Main Auditorium of the Catholic University of Porto's School of Biotechnology.

### Opening Dinner for the European Football Championship 2004.

The Opening Dinner of this championship was held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, 11 June, in the Archives Room of the Porto Customs House. Guests included the Mayor of Porto, the President of UEFA and our Chancellor, in representation of our Confraria.

### Extraordinary Meeting of the Chapter.

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Chapter, held on Wednesday, 8 September, deliberated and unanimously approved the admission of the President of Latvia as a member of our Confraria with the rank of Cancelário. Details of the ceremony are published elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The Meeting also deliberated and unanimously approved the submission of the "Letter of Intent" regarding the admission of Jakob Schuler, Chairman of the International Association of Wine Clubs. The said "Letter of Intent" was delivered by the Chancellery to the gentleman in question during the congress that this Association held in Portugal in early November.

### Special Confraria products.

Umbrella, Standard size: € 15,00

Umbrella, Golf size: € 25,00

Silk ties with the Confraria emblem: € 15,00

Ladies' silk scarf with the Confraria emblem: € 23,00

Lapel pins with and w/o long pin: € 20,00

Metal badge of rank - Mestre and Experto: € 5,00

Crystal decanter with engraved Confraria emblem: € 90,00



## Editorial

Here's another Newsletter from our Confraria!

We are meeting the challenge we set to establish communications between all the Confrades, although we do admit that we still have to perfect this means of reaching everyone.

Accordingly, from today onwards, we will be sending the Newsletter by email to everyone who has been enthroned, including all Cancelários.

Looking back on the activities of the Confraria, there is no doubt that we have truly attained a position of international prestige, inasmuch as few organizations can include 38 Heads of State as Honorary Members, and more than one thousand of active Members.

Just a few words to summarize our activities in 2004, as the Confraria proceeds with its activities:

The annual Enthronement Ceremony, the Port Wine Ball and the Regatta were held with the usual great success.

In 2004, the Confraria enthroned two more Cancelários: the President of the Czech Republic and the President of Latvia.

This is a good time for us to reflect on the object of our Confraria, as clearly stated in our Statutes:

The object of the Confraria do Vinho do Porto is to promote and disseminate Port Wine.

The Confraria needs the help of each of its members if we are to attain this goal with the efficiency and professionalism that we all demand of it. Each Mestre, Experto and Cavaleiro, has an active contribution to make.

With this in mind, the Chancellery challenges everyone to collaborate with it in all our initiatives, be this by writing an article, by participating in meetings of the chapter, or by taking part in our activities.

Your involvement is what fires our motivation and involvement. Surely, Port Wine deserves our best efforts!



## Remembering



The enthronement of the King of Spain, HRH Juan Carlos I, on 18 May 1989 was greeted with much interest and excitement.

At the beginning, though, and in spite of the avowed goodwill of the protocol services at the Royal Palace of Moncloa, the arrangements were complicated, as we had to explain the entire enthronement ceremony in minute detail. All went well until we reached the part where, according to our Customs, the new Confrade, in this case HRH the King of Spain, holding a full glass of Port Wine, gives a toast and drinks the wine. The protocol services were radically opposed to this: "Quite impossible. HRH never drinks in public."

We reached a compromise. HRH would make the toast but not drink the Port.

José António Ramos Pinto Rosas and Manuel Joaquim Poças Pintão had been entrusted, by the Chancellery, with the honour of receiving HRH in the Library at the Bolsa Palace and then taking him to the Commercial Court where the enthronement would take place.

On the appointed day, both these fellow Confrades duly awaited HRH's arrival in the Library. The room was packed with many ladies and Portuguese and Spanish journalists, photographers and TV camera men. Total confusion broke out when HRH arrived. Several photographers, acting more like rowdy savages than civilized members of the press, climbed on top of the two antiques tables, paying no

heed to their artistic worth. José António Rosas and Manuel Pintão were jostled aside and almost disappeared under the crush of this small, but unruly, mob.

HRH, knowing that two Confrades were waiting for him there, easily recognized them as they were wearing their full regalia. He stretched his arm over the heads of the crowd to shake their hands and, with a gracious smile, greeted them in perfect Portuguese.

The enthronement went ahead as planned. When the moment arrived for the toast, HRH raised his glass in the toast and, turning his back to the participants, faced the wall and drank deeply. The room burst with enthusiastic applause as HRH's highly unexpected and very spontaneous gesture touched every Confrade who was present to the depth of his heart.

## Enthronement 2004

As announced in the previous Newsletter, this year's annual enthronement took place on June 25th. As the event coincided with the final games of EURO 2004, the European Football Championship, we were unable to enthrone Lennart Johansen, President of FIFA and Luis Figo, the popular Portuguese football player.

With our usual pomp and circumstance, we welcomed 60 new Confrades with the following ranks: 7 Mestres, 22 Expertos, and 31 Cavaleiros.

The ceremony began at 6:30 p.m. in the grand foyer of the Bolsa Palace, after which all present walked in



## Enthronement 2004



Dinner, once again prepared by Chef Hélio, began with assorted aperitifs and a glass of Confraria Dry White Port, served on the Customs quay, and under an unforgettable sunset over the River Douro.

The following menu was served in the Grand Hall, on the first floor of the building:

- Mango, Smoked Duck and Foie Gras Mille-Feuilles - Evel 2003 White Douro Wine
- Saddle of Mirandela Veal wrapped in Pata Negra Smoked Ham and with a Red Douro Wine sauce - 2002 Prazo de Roriz Douro Red Wine
- Serra Cheese - 1991 Confraria Vintage Port
- Strawberry Meringue with Bitter Chocolate Sauce - Confraria 20 Years Old Tawny Port

Enthusiastic dancers during the Ball that accompanied and followed dinner kept the festivities going until the early hours of the following day.

## XXI Rabelo Boat Regatta

Held Sunday June 27th, the starting gun was scheduled to go off at 10:30 a.m. from Ouro, Sobreiras. 18 boats took part: Cález, Ferreira, Barros Almeida, Cockburn, Croft, Fonseca, Forrester, Graham's, Gran Cruz, Burmester, Martinez Gassiot, Osborne, SPR, Robertson, Sandeman, Silva & Cosens, QVB and Warre.

As usual, the Chancellery's guests followed the Regatta from the deck of the 120-passenger Vistadouro boat.

Unfortunately, the lack of wind made this year's regatta particularly difficult. At long last, the Quinta do Vau, Sandeman's rabelo boat, crossed the finish line just in front of the lower span of the D. Luis I bridge, to be crowned 2004 Champion.

Prizes were awarded and the traditional "family photograph" was taken on the square in front of this firm's lodges. Lunch for all the crews and some guests was served at Sandeman's, where entertainment was provided by the Porto Folk Dance Group.



## Enthronement of the President of the Republic of Latvia

Vaira Vike-Freiberga, President of the Republic of Latvia, was enthroned with the rank of Cancelário, on the occasion of his recent visit to Portugal.

The ceremony was held in the Commercial Court at the Bolsa Palace at 1 p.m. on 16 September 2004.

During the ceremony, our Chancellor made particular note of the fact that this was the first time that a President was being enthroned as a member of our Confraria. He also mentioned an interesting connection between Latvia and Port Wine. In effect, in the old days, the beams that supported the roofs over the wine lodges and the spars on which rested the casks in which Port was aged, were made from wood imported from Riga.

At the end of the ceremony, the new Cancelário was given a

fine wooden box containing a Confraria ship's decanter and a bottle of 1991 Vintage, as well as a six-bottle case of the same Port Wine. The President of Latvia was the 36th Head of State to be enthroned as a member of the Confraria.



## To our Confrades

So far, we have successfully published the Confraria Newsletter twice a year, at the end of June and at the end of December.

Undoubtedly, this is a most useful means of communicating with the Confrades, and everyone who has worked in publishing it is determined to ensure that we continue to do so. For this, however, and in order to make our Newsletter even better and more interesting, we need your contributions. We welcome and thank you in advance for your stories of your experiences with the Confraria or involving Port Wine.

## About our Confrades



Confrade Carlos Ernesto Cabral de Mello, better known among us as Carlos Cabral, the first Brazilian Confrade, was admitted to our Confraria with the rank of Cavaleiro on 29 May 1984, and promoted to Infanção on 27 June 2003, for his great contribution to the name of Port Wine in Brazil, informs us that he is putting the finishing touches to the proofs of a book that shall be launched in the next few weeks.

Written in Portuguese his book is entitled *A Presença do Vinho no Brasil* (The Presence of Wine in Brazil), is 240 pages long and contains some 60 illustrations.

The presence of wine in Brazil from the moment that Pedro Álvares Cabral arrived with his fleet in 1500, to today, the first vineyards that were planted in the state of S. Paulo for making communion wine, the gold rush in Minas, the growing importance of wine, wine in Brazilian literature, changing

customs with the arrival of the Portuguese Royal Family;

Wine consumption in Brazil, as seen by travellers who covered the country;

Wine during the Empire, Dom Pedro II's Adega and his 49 year-long reign;

Port Wine in everyday Brazilian life, including forgeries;

The arrival of the Italians in 1875 and the beginning of the wine industry in Brazil;

The great changes with the arrival of the multinational corporations in the 1990s, wine today and tomorrow.

These are just some of the topics that are addressed in a book that is certain to be extremely interesting.