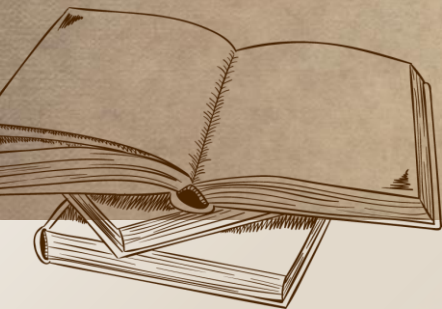


Jobs from the Past - Madeira Island



Escola Básica e Secundária de
Santa Cruz



Jobs from the past...

Not so long ago, people were talking about the old jobs, not about those which changed their names (such as a messenger, today's postman), but those who progressed or ended up by becoming extinct. Other professions have simply disappeared due to technological evolution and social changes.

Who remembers the jobs of yesteryear?

Scissors Sharpener

They had a stone so they could sharpen knives and scissors. They used to carry their stone in a box and had a characteristic whistle to call the people on the street. They also repaired damaged umbrellas. They walked the whole island on foot.



Boieiro

Boieiro was an old craft (profession) of a man who guarded or led the ox in the service of cargo transportation (goods) and occasionally people.

There were usually two men: the youngest went ahead holding the rope and he was called “The lamp”. The owner of the ox went in the back to stuff the tallow, he was called the Boieiro.



Tanoeiro - Cooper

A cooper is a person trained to make and repair wooden casks, barrels, vats, buckets, tubs, troughs and other similar containers from timber staves

For centuries, the *Tanoeiro* was very important due to the production and trade of wine.



Leiteiro - Milkman

The milkman, selling from door to door, loaded with milk and with his measuring cups. Even today we remember how our grandparents or parents received the milk and then boiled it, so that they could drink it. It was so wonderful!



Vendadeiras de flores - Flower Sellers

Upon arriving at the island, tourists were surprised by the florists, dressed strictly in the regional costume, selling flowers on the streets of Funchal.



Borracheiros - Wine Carriers

The word *Borracheiro* comes from “Borracho”, a name given to wine bags made of goatskin. A Borracho's bag can hold up to 70 liters of new wine or must.



Calafate - Ship Caulker

This is a profession related to the construction of fishing vessels. Today these jobs are rare because instead of using wood the boats are made of modern materials based of fiber and some are even metallic.



Cesteiros - Basket Weavers

Basket weaving artisans make wicker baskets using the artisanal method.

Wicker – *Vime* - is a vegetable fiber that is both flexible and resistant, which gives it great durability.



Bomboteiros

In the 1940s and '50s of the last century, this term was used to describe sellers who used small boats (bumboats) to approach cruise ships stopping in the port of Funchal, trying to sell to its rich passengers local goods such as fruits, Madeira wine, embroidered and wicker products.





Bomboteiros selling their objects to tourists arriving on a cruise ship to Madeira.

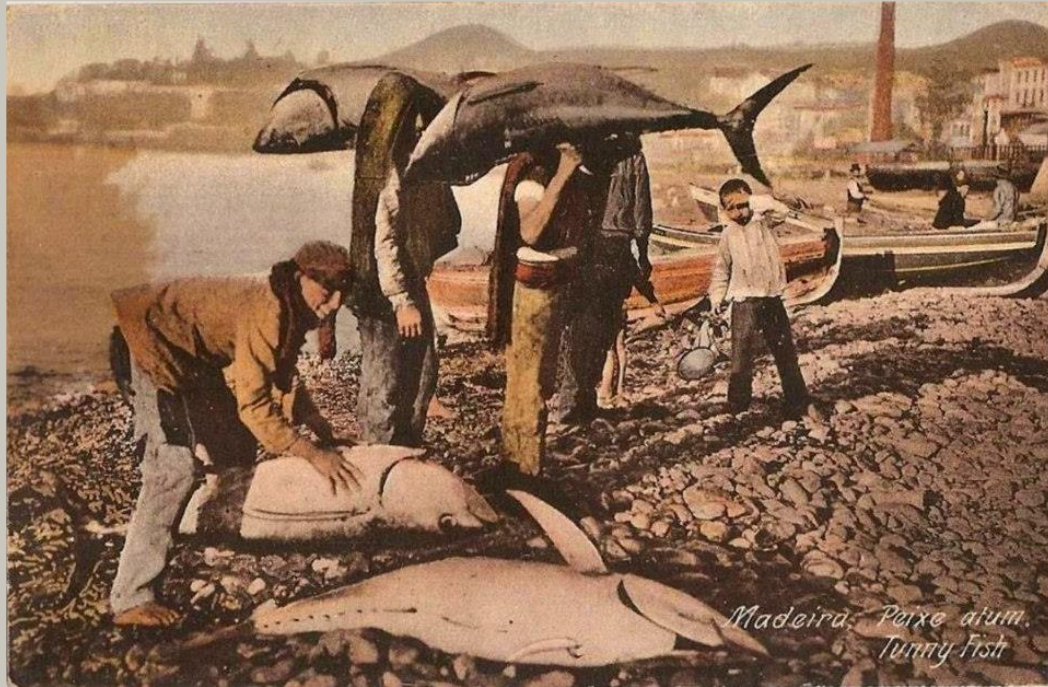


Rapazes da Mergulhança - Diving Boys

Rapazes da Mergulhança (Diving Boys) and *Mergulhança* (Diving), describe a rather strange phenomenon in the history of Madeira. Rich passengers of large cruise ships threw coins into the water only to be able to see the young Madeira boys dive in the sea trying to catch these...



Carregadores de Atum - Tuna Fish Carriers



«Tuna fish» carriers - Funchal beach
Postcard from the first decades of the 20th century.

Bordadeiras - Embroiderers

The Madeira Embroidery is one of the world's best and was often purchased by royal houses of Europe over the past 100 years.

One of the driving forces behind this activity was Miss Phelps. She was the daughter of an English merchant, who came to Madeira in mid 1850.



Bordadeiras - Embroiderers

Impressed by the manual ability of local women, Miss Phelps taught them the techniques of *broderie anglaise*.

The Madeira embroiderers were so competent and original that three decades later they had imposed a style that would become known as *Madère broderie*. Embroideries brought a new source of income for thousands of families



Carreiros do Monte

The *Carreiros* are the men who drive the most picturesque form of transport on the island of Madeira.



Carro cesto "Carreiros"

Carreiros do Monte

The Monte Toboggans Sledges first originated in the early 19th century when they were used as first means of "downhill" public transportation by the local residents who wanted to travel quickly from the Parish of Monte to the city of Funchal.



Carreiros do Monte

Presently and for a number of years now, the Sledges are used to transport thousands of tourists every year, seeking a ride full of emotions, adrenaline and an unforgettable experience with splendid views over the city and beyond.



Workers - Opening paths in the basalt escarpments.

As a result of this opening, paths, trails, footpaths, waterways (*Levadas*) that take water everywhere and constitute monuments of art and skill, but above all reveal work, strength and struggle in the field of nature.



Lavadeira - Washerwoman

Washerwomen
doing the laundry
on the levada.




Ice Cream Seller



Funchal, 1932-1939

Useful Links



http://www02.madeira-edu.pt/Portals/5/documentos/PublicacoesDRE/E_Book_Memorias/dwn_pdf_EBook_MemoriasComHistoria.pdf

ERASMUS PROJECT: “LET ME BE YOUR GUIDE - A WALK THROUGH OF MY CULTURAL HERITAGE”

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