

ALGARVE NEWS TAKES A LOOK AT

# FARO

by Jim Player and Fred Phillips

If you'd visited Faro 10 years ago, you'd have found two-way traffic in what is now the main shopping street, the roadway in front of the Hotel Eva being repaired, and Manuel serving "bicas" in the garden cafe!

Not a great amount has happened to Faro over these years. Perhaps, if anything, it has sorted itself out touristically and has allowed other areas nearer to the beach to go after the pound, dollar or deutschmark.

The Hotel Eva remains as popular as ever with the British and the Hotel Faro offers its superior position and dining room to those who care to stop.

The Casa de Lumena, just off the Rua Sta. Antonio, opened in 1968 with Norman Downey, Jim and Neil Player, wives, children and dogs. Norman Downey and Jim Player are still around, but not in the hotelcum-bar business. Now the "Lumena" is run by Ray Tomison and Loli (short for Dolores) Ward. It's still the watering hole for those Brits in town shopping or working in some of the various businesses in this capital city.



ARCO DA VILA

Generally, Faro is the administrative centre for both local government and commerce. The Civil Governor, Dr Almeida Carrapato, has his offices next to the town arch and close

by is the Finances (Inland Revenue), where income tax returns are made, official blue stamped paper and fiscal stamps are bought.

Behind Dr. Carrapato's offices

is the Camera (Town Hall) with its service department. The Camera of Faro sits in the most beautiful spot — Largo do Sé, in the old town. Not many years ago, Roman ruins and objects were discovered here while the cobbly square was under repair. The printer who produces the newspaper has offices nearby and is controlled by an order of priests who themselves publish a «Folha de Domingo», a weekly paper coming out on Fridays. Nearly all the principal services agents have sales offices in Faro. Some of these are located around the Market Square — Ford, G.M., BMW, British Leyland and Honda.

The Citroen offices are on the old Lisbon road, near do Alportel. There, Jorge Batista, a popular figure around Faro, controls the sale of this most popular range of cars. Jorge speaks English and French and has many estrangeiros as his clients. He lives with his English wife, Frankie, and their two children in Vale do Lobo. Frank

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