Welcome to members and friends in Portugal of the Mediterranean Garden Society. If you know of any others who may be interested in Mediterranean gardening please pass this along to them and remember all are welcome to attend our events.

**Mediterranean Garden Society Annual General Meeting – Sunday October 23rd, near Carmona, Spain**

We understand from the organisers that it will be possible to attend the AGM and take part in the activities planned for this day without the need to book in for the whole visit of four days. This will give members from Portugal the rare opportunity to meet fellow members of the MGS worldwide who will be in Spain for the AGM. We understand that the costs for the AGM day, scheduled to be held in Moron de la Frontera, including lunch and private garden visit in the afternoon are 60 euros. If you wish to book in for the day or just for the AGM in the morning, please contact the professional organizers direct: Laura Gordon at email address Laura@valesacultural.com or BY FAX TO LAURA GORDON, VALESA CULTURAL SERVICES, SPAIN. FAX Nº. (+34) 91 435 5147.

**Design-A-Border Workshop  Friday 7th October**

We have finalised the following details for our next event, which will be held in the centre of Portugal near Coimbra at the country home of Arnold and Marion ter Horst.

The event will be a workshop on how to create a mediterranean type garden border. This will be lead by Wim van Putten from the Algarve, who will give an introductory talk and information on the day’s activities. The participants will be divided into teams and each team will make their own design related to a specific plot at the Quinta of which we will get a plan. There will be reference books and material available but please feel free to bring along any books or catalogues which you have found helpful. This is an opportunity to share your recommended information sources.

The event will take place at Arnold & Marion’s Quinta de Santo Antonio in Barril de Alva near Coja which is situated within the triangle Arganil -Tabua - Oliveira de Hospital. We intend to start the day at 10.30am with the tutorial and introductory section and move onto the practical production of an agreed design during the afternoon session. Lunch will be provided for a small charge towards costs.

There is a possibility to have dinner together that evening in a local restaurant.

**Saturday 8th October**

Meet at Quinta de Santo Antonio, drive to Arganil (20 mins), coffee and visit to the garden of Adrian and Henny Raaymakers. A private and public mini-park newly designed and planted within the last year with a design to complement the existing well and stone structures. There are reed ponds which treat the water from the house incorporated in the garden with an interesting selection of water plants. Fantastic views over the surrounding countryside and the Serra de Estrela.
Nusery visit in Arganil – general selection of plants including shrubs & trees, water plants and containers, pots etc. including acid loving plants. The owner studied horticulture in Portugal and the UK and specialised in drought resistant plants.

Lunch by the river just outside Arganil, followed by an afternoon in the historical village of Midoes where we will visit an historical garden and a private garden which grows a lot of succulents and cacti with mixed southern hemisphere plantings.

**Accommodation Suggestions:**
Arnold and Marion ter Horst – a single room available, contact details as below.

Chris & Ela van de Logt can take one couple staying in return for small charge for breakfast. They live in Barril de Alva. E-mail: christiaan@oninet.pt  Tel. no 235 728 470

Jackie Coates, at Pine Tops Quintal da Fonte, Aneriz, 3305-010 Coja offers bed & breakfast, two doubles at € 35 each, and one single for € 30. She lives 15 minutes drive away. E-mail: nelwog@hotmail.com  Tel. no 235 728 450

Hotel Rural Quinta da Geia, 30 minutes drive away. www.quintadageia.com E-mail: quintadageia@mail.telepac.pt  Tel.no: 238 670 019

Members and friends are all most welcome. **CONTACT Rosie Peddle TO BOOK YOUR PLACES FOR THE DAY** – please let me know if you wish to attend before Saturday October 1st at the latest.

If you have any queries or would like further information about accommodation or the day’s events please contact Marion & Arnold ter Horst, Quinta de Sto Antonio, Barril da Alva, 3305-020 Coja TM: 917 850 235 Email. arnold-terhorst@netcabo.pt

**SINTRA VISIT May 28th** – A report by Pepper Crofoot

On 28 May, a group of MGS members met early in the morning at the Parque de Monserrate, in Sintra. We had hoped to have a horticultural tour by fellow member, Gerald Luckhurst, who has been overseeing work occurring in various parts of the garden, in particular the restoration of the old rose garden. Unfortunately, he found that he suddenly had to be in Italy on that day, so was unable to join us. It then fell to me to conduct the tour, which was certainly not as informative as Gerald would have made it. However, our group of MGS members were all so enthusiastic, as well as observant, that we had a fine time.

The Palacio has been beautifully restored on the outside, just this past year, and it is magnificent! The rose garden has been cleared, and the old watering system uncovered after half a century of being covered and clogged. Some of the original roses have miraculously survived, and a few more have been planted. Every few weeks the brambles and acacias need to be pulled up again and yet again.. It still has a long way to go before it will look like a real rose garden, but progress is being made. The rest of the gardens are continually being cleaned, re-planted, and inventoried by the team of young horticultural students who are working for Monte da Lua, an organization hired by the Camera of Sintra.
We then all went down the road to have lunch at Quinta do Castanheiro, the home of Pepper and David Crofoot, and, of course, a tour of the garden. Later in the afternoon we went to Quinta da Bemposta, the home of Francoise Baudry, an Interior Decorator, and her husband, Roland Bouvier, a well-known painter. They have owned their house for about 20 years. The gardens are extensive, and are being continually enhanced as the years go on. Meandering paths take one into different garden rooms, with water features, unusual plantings, and always spectacular views, with the sea to the west and the Serra da Sintra at one’s back. One of the souvenirs of this visit was the pile of cuttings of a lovely pink pelargonium which we were all encouraged to take away with us. We were served an elegant tea on the terrace, where Francoise spoke about the garden’s development.

In the evening we all met at the Estalagem de Colares where we had dinner together. Most of the group stayed at Quinta do Corvo, in Colares, a B&B run by MGS member Bernard Weijers, who gave a tour of his garden the next morning. This was a mature garden, with interesting divisions reflecting its valley situation. This successfully created a mysterious atmosphere which encouraged discovery of the areas planted, the sculptures and friendly animal encounters. Afterwards there were visits to local garden centers, which were apparently very successful! A last stop on the way home was at the huge garden centre of Quinta da Eira near Sintra, no one left without a very full car!

**Algarve Event 24th June** 22 members of the MGS arrived for the start of our day on the Algarve with coffee and an introduction to the garden at Quinta Recanto do Laranjal, Quelfes near Moncarapacho. The garden was immaculate for our visit with many of the promised flowers of the extensive Hemerocallis collection open for us to see. This was an inspirational visit showing the range of plant material it is possible to grow on alkaline soil during an extended drought! The garden has charming pathways which meander through the plants and give an opportunity to take advantage of the rich variety of plant material. Wim and Sophia gave us a warm welcome and set the standards high for the rest of our day.

Lunch in the famous fishing port town of Olhao was marked by our first real opportunity to talk plants and gardens and therefore delayed slightly our visit in the afternoon to Margaret Jackson’s delightful garden in Almancil.

Much thought and planning had obviously gone into the layout of this garden showing the benefit of discipline when planting, not something it is easy to achieve when confronted with a new site. Mature trees and shrubs provided shade and the Parkinsonia in full flower was a rare treat. The richly planted natural pond, complete with frog chorus, cooled the air and provided a real contrast with the parched countryside. This was an oasis which we found it hard to leave. The next day a small group visited the Estoi Palace gardens, which are undergoing restoration as this royal summer palace is converted into a pousada.
LIST OF FUTURE EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>2005</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Coordinator(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 7th &amp; 8th</td>
<td>Workshop in Central area (garden design project) Details above.</td>
<td>Marion ter Horst</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 20-24</td>
<td>AGM to be held in Carmona, Spain CONTACT Laura Gordon as above</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Lisbon area event</td>
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<tr>
<th>2006</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>February/March</td>
<td>Visit and talk – Camellia garden, Northern area</td>
<td>Marion ter Horst</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Algarve visit with walk to view wild flowers (Rocha de Pena, Loule area suggested)</td>
<td>Wim van Putten</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>Visit to Porto area – gardens and guided tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Western Algarve, Aljezur area, Monchique bio-park and visit/talk on swimming ponds (piscina biologica)</td>
<td>Udo &amp; Claudia Schwarzer</td>
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NURSERY CONTACTS recommended by members

Pépinière Filippi, RN 113 34140 MEZE FRANCE
Tel: 0033 (0)467438869 Fax: 0033 (0) 467438459 Email. olivier.filippi@wanadoo.fr
Web site. www.jardin-sec.com

PLEASE NOTE – We are now in the process of compiling an order from this nursery. Please let me know as soon as possible if you wish to take advantage of a ‘special delivery MGS order’ for Portugal from this specialist nursery.

Quinta Medronhal QM Garden Centre, St. Barbara de Nexe, Faro TEL 917 814 261 FAX EMAIL 289 999 633 Email: stuartmerelie@sapo.pt
Selection of plants, pots, trees and shrubs, many unusual specimens.

Quinta da Eira, Sintra, Lisboa This is a large garden center with the full range of trees, shrubs, climbers and pots etc. Well worth a visit if you are near.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Members of the MGS are part of a large international group of amateur and professional gardeners, horticulturists, botanists, and others who appreciate the unique climate called ‘mediterranean’. Annual subscriptions are payable in January. New members joining during the course of the year will receive all four issues of the journal published in the year of joining. To join the MGS, fill out an application and send it along with your membership fee (€30) to The Secretary, The Mediterranean Garden Society, P.O. Box 14, Peania GR-190 02, Greece. New members will be automatically added to the membership list with this Branch. Further information about the MGS can be found on the main web site www.mediterraneangardensociety.org. There is a membership page and application form available on the website, if you would prefer to receive these in the post please let Rosie Peddle know and confirm your address or fax number.

Branch Co-Heads
Pepperrell Crofoot, Quinta do Castanheiro, Eugaria, COLARES 2705-209
Tel. 21 928 8039 Email. crofoot@mail.telepac.pt

Marion ter Horst, Quinta da Sto Antonio, Barril da Alva, COJA 3305-020
Tel 917 850 235 & also at Rua da Cerca 45, PORTO 4150-202 Tel. 22 617 7040 Email. arnold-terhorst@netcabo.pt

Branch Secretary & Newsletter Compiler
Rosie Peddle, Quinta das Sesmarias, Fornalha, Moncarapacho, OLHÃO 8700-091
Tel. 289 791 869 Email. rosie@thebtf.net