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.

Queremos dar as boas vindas aos sócios e amigos do Mediterranean Garden Society em Portugal. Se souber de alguém que esteja interessado em jardimagem mediterrânica agradecemos que passa a palavra, ou o favor de dar um destes boletins informativos, e não esquecer que todos estão convidados a participar nos eventos por nós organizados.

LIST OF EVENTS – Details below

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May 2nd – Moncarapacho. Informal afternoon offered by Carlo Balistrieri to meet members and friends of the MGS in Portugal. Carlo has kindly offered some time from his holiday here and this gives MGS an opportunity not to be missed. A short presentation will be followed by a workshop led by Carlo on topics related to gardening in the Mediterranean zones of the world with particular reference to conditions on the Algarve. Carlo is ex Curator of The New York Botanic Garden where he had particular responsibility for the historic 2.5 acre rock garden. He has a new and very interesting web site at http://www.botanicalgardening.com/ and is interested in learning more about gardening on the Algarve from us.

In his own words "I’ve grown everything from single-celled bioluminescent algae to giant sequoias. At one time I had over 2000 orchids growing under lights in a basement. I now grow orchids, cacti and succulents (with a special fondness for the really bizarre, unusual looking things). My collection also includes flowering tropicales, vines, begonias, bromeliads, gesneriads and the like--and that’s just indoors! Outdoors there are hardy orchids, rock garden and alpine plants, perennials, annuals, trees, shrubs, and woodland plants.

I am the executive director of The Gardens at Turtle Point in Tuxedo Park, New York. We are building a private botanical garden on 20 acres of land, composed of three contiguous estates. There is 1/2 mile of frontage on Tuxedo Lake, massive rock outcroppings, large old trees, and amazing owners who are passionate, dedicated and committed to creating a magnificent garden.

In addition, I am a garden photographer and writer, published in many magazines and newspapers. I am the primary author and photographer of “The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Rock and Water Gardening, Illustrated” and am also a speaker and teacher on diverse horticultural topics.” So something for everyone there I think !! I hope you will be able to join us for what promises to be a fascinating afternoon with a knowledgeable and enthusiastic plantsman.
May 11th  Roses in Monchique in May

A full day on this interesting and rarely discussed topic. We are fortunate to have been granted permission to visit two established private gardens noted for their displays of roses at this time of year. Our DRAFT programme is as follows but full details, including directions, will be distributed shortly.

**Morning Visit** to established terraced garden with a wide selection of roses including Bourbon, English, Portuguese and modern selections. Situated on east facing slope of Foia and surrounded by a large stand of old olives.

**Lunch** (simple) at nearby restaurant

**Afternoon Visit** Established small garden with a large collection of modern tea and polyantha roses. Situated on south facing slope of Picota.

Both gardens will have the owner present to show us round and answer questions.

Also possible visit to a mature garden with many tropical and semi-tropical trees and shrubs; and small specialist nursery nearby, depending on numbers.

Please let Rosie Peddle know as soon as possible if you wish to attend any of these events listed above. The numbers are limited for each event owing to the venues.

For your information –

**April 28th Medicinal & Aromatic Herbs** in Barrocal/Algarve Serra. Part of the Pedestrian Walks on Landscape Interpretation (Passos Contados) A series of walks held by the Cacela History group – contact ciipcacela@gmail.com Tel: 281 952 600 Further walks planned during May and June.

**May 5th Gardens Open** in aid of the Royal British Legion on the eastern Algarve, within10 minutes drive, north of Estoi. Monte Alegre and Monte Bouganvillea - two mature settings, a plantsman’s passion and a tranquil retreat. Plants for sale and RBL merchandise. Email map available on request.

**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 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 (€35) 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.

**Regional Contacts:**

- **Lisbon area** – Ben Weijers, Tel: 219 290 506 Email: quintadocorvo@yahoo.com
- **Porto area** – Marion ter Horst, Tel: 235 721 193 Email: arnold-terhorst@netcabo.pt
- **Minho area** – Chloe Parrott, Tel: 966 971 275 Email: chloe@mail.telepac.pt
- **Algarve area** - Rosie Peddle, Tel. 289 791 869 Email: rosie@thebtf.net

Branch co-ordinator & Newsletter compiler: Rosie Peddle, Quinta das Sesmarias, Fornalha, Moncarapacho, OLHÃO 8700-091 Tel. & Email as above.