## Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Info</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 28 Nov</td>
<td>Christmas Market</td>
<td>MGAP stall dispensing seeds, natural history books and good cheer!</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 - 18.00</td>
<td>Quinta Shopping, Almancil</td>
<td>Come for your wildflower gifts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>** Helpers Needed!**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2(^{nd}) Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Social &amp; Lunch</td>
<td>Tasquinho do Lagar, Querença</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Native/Drought Tolerant Plants in Table</td>
<td>Good food and good company.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Decoration - a fun competition with a</td>
<td>Bookings to Burford Hurry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>great prize!</td>
<td><a href="mailto:burfordhpt@gmail.com">burfordhpt@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30(^{th}) Dec</td>
<td>Fungi Foray in Monchique</td>
<td>Info &amp; bookings contact</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guided walk looking at fungi with</td>
<td>Jeanette Fahlbusch Email</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pat O’Reilly, author of Fascinating Fungi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeanettealicefahlbusch@gmail.com">jeanettealicefahlbusch@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Early March</td>
<td>Annual General Meeting</td>
<td>With speaker, book sales and information on MGAP activities</td>
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<td>Date to be confirmed</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2016</td>
<td>Spring Plant Fair</td>
<td>Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Date to be confirmed</td>
<td>Bigger and Better!</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 to 22 April 2016</td>
<td>Pre Conference tour in Sintra and Lisbon</td>
<td>Based in Sintra, visits to historic and private gardens with guides.</td>
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<td>Places limited</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EARLY NOTICE</strong></td>
<td>International Spring Conference April 2016</td>
<td>Olivier Filippi visit to Algarve</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 to 25 April 2016</td>
<td>dedicated to the natural landscapes</td>
<td>Saturday April 23(^{rd})</td>
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<td></td>
<td>and native plants around the Mediterranean</td>
<td>Talk on &quot;Dry gardening: a new inspiration for gardeners in the</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Residential and Day Delegate packages</td>
<td>Mediterranean region&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>available</td>
<td>Enquiries to <a href="mailto:rosie@thebtf.net">rosie@thebtf.net</a></td>
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</table>

### A short reminder about the Christmas lunch

Please let Burford know before the 26\(^{th}\) November whether you will be attending or not. Apart from the menu at €15 MGAP members €20 guests (Roast chicken with clams, Bacalhao with a béchamel sauce - all done Tasquinha style) remember there will be a water-wise plant table arrangement competition with a very interesting and unusual plant for a prize. Details below but please contact Burford Hurry Email burfordhpt@gmail.com
Christmas Social & Lunch at Tasquinho do Lagar, Querença - December 2\textsuperscript{nd}

*Everyone is invited* to join us for the Christmas Social meeting and lunch. There will be an informal competition for the best ‘Waterwise’ table decoration using seasonal native and/or drought tolerant plant materials. *Querença* is a typical small village situated in the Loulé department, in the Algarve region, a place of natural and architectural beauty. The village, located on a low hillside, is characterized by its charming typical white houses with a coloured bar around windows and doors, and with the traditional Algarve chimneys, showing the influence of many years of Moorish occupancy of the territory. €15 per person MGAP members / €20 guests

At the top of the hill is the lovely 16th century Mother Church with its interesting Manueline portal and a modest decoration, right in front of the pillory sited on a rock.

The *Tasquinho do Lagar* restaurant

*Directions and more information on*

http://infolugares.pt/Loule/Tasquinha-Do-Lagar  
GPS 37.197461,-7.98697

All bookings and enquiries to Burford Hurry Email burfordhpt@gmail.com

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**Fungi Foray, a guided walk – 30 December 2015**

Walk off the Christmas festivities with a guided tour of some of the Monchique hot spots for spectacular fungi. *Pat O’Reilly* is the author of *Fascinating Fungi*, the easy-to-follow introduction to a complex and largely unexplored kingdom of life and the history, mystery, facts and fiction born out of the fascinating foibles of mushrooms, toadstools and other fungi. Almost all of the species pictured and described in the book occur in the Algarve, and several are specifically associated with habitats unique to or mainly occurring in the Algarve region of southern Portugal. http://www.algarvewildlife.com/books-fungi.php  
Please register your interest in this event with Jeanette Fahlbusch email jeanettealicefahlbusch@gmail.com  
There will be a charge of €5 for this event and the Fungi book will be for sale on the day.

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**International Spring Conference in the Western Algarve, Portugal**

**Dry Gardens in the Mediterranean “an undiscovered diversity”**

*EARLY NOTICE  22/23/24 April 2016*  
The conference will be based in Lagos.

**Keynote Speakers** - Olivier Filippi and Dr Ken Thompson

A long weekend from Friday 22 to Monday 25 April with *Olivier Filippi* as the keynote speaker on “Dry gardening: a new inspiration for gardeners in the Mediterranean region”.  
*Dr Ken Thompson* has published widely on almost all aspects of plant ecology. He writes regularly on gardening for the Daily Telegraph.  
Full programme and booking form rosie@thebtf.net

There will be attractive packages for day delegates to include the talks and lunch or dinner giving you the opportunity to meet your fellow Mediterranean garden enthusiasts from other countries. If you can host a visitor/student during the weekend, please contact rosie@thebtf.net

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Saturday, 28 November** Christmas Market, 10.00-18.00 at Quinta Shopping, Almancil with MGAP sales table (Helpers Needed - if you are going and can spare an hour to help) and Algarve Slow Food among the 50 plus stalls with choirs and storytelling on the day.

**Sunday, 29th November** Querenca Market between 10am and 1pm with local produce, artesanato, entertainment and a great local community atmosphere.

**Saturday, 5th December** Charity Christmas Bazaar, 12 noon till dark, at Quinta Santo Antonio in Barril de Alva, Beira. There will be many stalls, much food and drink, a Raffle draw and gentle live music and carol singing. Garden paths will be marked and children will be invited on a treasure
hunt. Do come and support this good and fun event to raise money for good causes! more info and directions from Marion ter Horst email s.m.terhorst@gmail.com Tel: 235 721 193

**Sunday, 6th December** the annual Museu de São Bras Christmas Fair in Sao Bras de Alportel between 11am and 4pm. This event is well-known for its artesanato, local producers, robust food and convivial air.

**Monday, 7th December** Used Bookfair, 2 - 5pm with a big selection accumulated over the Summer months and reduced prices. Near Querença Email griffinbookshop@gmail.com or tel Linda 91 6 81 984 for directions.

**Tuesday, 8th December** A.C.C.A’s Christmas Fair at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Quinta da Lago 11am to 7pm - held inside the building this year to provide a more festive (and warmer) ambiance. As the 8th is a public holiday, expect attendance by a local School Choir and much festivity and fun.

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**Solar conference CONSOLFOOD-2016** on Advances in Solar Thermal Food Processing will be held on 22nd and 23rd January 2016 at Instituto Sup. Engenharia, Univ. Algarve, Campus da Penha, 8005-139 Faro

Solar food processing and solar cooking have already been presented and discussed by experts in international meetings (conferences, workshops, webinars, etc). It is important to continue sharing knowledge and promoting collaborations to widen the access for solar cooking in different contexts (at home, restaurants, canteens, etc), water purification and related solar food processing applications. Keynote speakers from several parts of the world and covering different interesting topics in solar food processing and solar cooking are invited. A round table is also being planned as well as a poster session. This is particularly important in the context of native forests being used for firewood.

More info from Prof. Celestino Ruivo (cruivo@ualg.pt) Website: www.consolfood.org

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**Report on the MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN FAIR** – Sunshine and Home Made Cakes, some cooked by solar power!

Thank you to everyone who supported our seventh annual Mediterranean Garden Fair held on Saturday 7 November. What an amazing day we had for this special event, but, thank goodness we had sunshine – it was a great bonus to have good weather this year after so many rainy days in October - the best preparation for planting!

The shuttle bus was once again very popular and allowed everyone good access to the site from the market place car park near the school. As we cannot have general parking on the site of the fair it is essential to have the cooperation and agreement with the Junta to use the market place for parking on the day. There were MGAP bulbs for sale as well as new and second hand books, and the new West Coast Wild Flowers book on the MGAP Info table inside the building. This year we also had a good selection of native plant seed available to buy. The advice panel was ably led by our President, Burford Hurry, a new idea for this year and many visitors made their way up to the building to ask for the friendly help of our experienced gardeners in topics such as fruit and vegetable growing, herbs and native plant gardens. In addition we had a tree surgeon with us and displays on worm composting, something for everyone we hope. The hardworking ladies on the Charity food stall sold out completely and no wonder when you saw the tempting range of cakes and savouries they produced. The Tavira Orphanage and animal charities will benefit. Once again we had the chance to sample solar cooking and cakes so a sunny day was a real bonus.

We had 710 paying visitors so an excellent and very pleasing response for the nurseries and the selection of plants on offer. After expenses, we raised just over 2000 euros on the day so a fantastic boost for our funds and for the projects we are planning. The sale plants looked lovely and the nurseries took a lot of trouble with their displays, labelling and information. If the plant crèche was anything to go by, there were a lot of plants bought on the day! If you have some good photos please send them to me, it would be great to put a gallery on the web site. Did anyone get a pic of the lovely man on his bike, with a large back pack holding a very tall palm tree?....
The strong interest in Mediterranean gardening and the need for good quality information, and appropriate plants, has been proved – and now we have had the best start possible for our gardening year. I am sure everyone was keen to get planting their new purchases, it was a lovely sunny day and I hope you all had a lot of fun.

As usual we will be holding a volunteers/helpers get together for a soup and sandwich lunch, feedback and talk about next year so please send us your comments. Without the valuable time and patience of our marvellous band of volunteer helpers we could not stage this event. This is our main fund raising effort for the year and gives us the opportunity to support our learning initiatives, student visits, projects and the events held throughout the rest of the year. Report with photos http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/recent_events.html

Looking for BOOKS / SEEDS / BULBS for Christmas Presents? We have the full range of First Nature Algarve Natural History books for sale including the new Orchids of the Algarve see details http://www.algarvewildlife.com/books-intro.php and order direct rosie@thebtf.net

BULBS for sale in limited quantities
Amaryllis belladonna, both clear and dark pink forms Iris unguicularis
Narcissus paperwhite Tulbaghia violacea, dark lilac form
Sementes de Portugal, native plant seeds now available in 26 varieties plus a limited quantity of Caper (Capparis spinosa) seeds

PLANT LABELS & SEED PACKETS available to buy
Pot labels white matt plastic 25 X 115 mm 24 labels on 3 sheets - cost €1.50
Loop labels white matt plastic 19 X 210mm 14 labels per sheet – cost €1.00 per sheet
Seed Packets 73mm x 41mm 10 packets for €1.25 / 98mm x 64mm 10 packets for €1.50

NEWS of an English edition of Alternatives au Gazon, the second book by Olivier Filippi
Planting Design for Dry Gardens - Beautiful, resilient groundcovers for terraces, paved areas, gravel and other alternatives to the lawn. We can now confirm the cost for a very special pre-publication offer to MGAP members and friends. This book is scheduled for publishing early in 2016. Please let us know if you are interested in purchasing a copy of this special book so that we can estimate numbers for our order. Cost of the book will be 30 euros. All items can be posted at cost plus postage, for all enquiries on any of the above items rosie@thebtf.net

LINK to a Radio 4 programme on an outbreak of Xylella fastidiosa, a voracious tree disease that is systematically devastating olive groves in one of the main areas of production for olive oil, in the heel of Italy. 95% of the world's olive trees are in the Mediterranean, and Italy is the world's second largest exporter. http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06kcbw2

LINK to info on a suspected case of huanglongbing [HLB] in southern Portugal. Last week's outbreak - which has yet to be officially confirmed - prompted Portugal's agriculture ministry to order the immediate uprooting of the affected 1.5 ha farm in the Algarve, in accordance with the emergency protocols established to deal with the disease. Producers in Spain have asked the authorities to tighten controls, increase inspections, and be extra vigilant for the African citrus psyllid, which transmits the disease. http://promedmail.org/post/3796582

Regional Contacts:
Lisbon area – Ben Weijers, Tel: 219 291 841 Email: quintadocorvo@yahoo.com
Beira area – Marion ter Horst, Tel: 235 721 193 Email: s.m.terhorst@gmail.com
Algarve area - Rosie Peddle, Tel. 289 791 869 Email: rosie@thebtf.net
Minho area – Chloe Parrott Tel. 966 971 275 Email: chloe@meo.pt

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
We have a friendly and informal group for everyone who has a special interest in the plants and gardens of Mediterranean climates. The aims of MGAP (Mediterranean Gardening Association Portugal) include education and encouraging the exchange of information and of experiences.
If you no longer wish to receive these newsletters then please do let us know by sending a return email with REMOVE in the subject line to info@mediterraneangardeningportugal.org

Further information about the Mediterranean Garden Society can be found on the main web site www.mediterraneangardensociety.org All MGS members in Portugal are welcome to take part in our events and are included in all mailings.