Welcome to members and friends in Portugal with an interest in Mediterranean Gardening. 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.

Bem-vindo aos membros e amigos em Portugal com interesse no Jardinagem Mediterrâneo. Se souber de alguém que esteja interessado em jardinaagem mediterrânica agradecemos que passa a palavra, ou o favor de dar um destes boletins informativos, e nao esquecer que todos estão convidados a participar nos eventos por nós organizados.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 6th &amp; Sunday 7th December</td>
<td>OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND And PLANT SALE With GARDEN TOUR, SEEDS, BOOK Sales, TEA &amp; BUNS</td>
<td>Quinta das Sesmarias, home of Rob and Rosie Peddle, Moncarapacho 11.00 to 4.00pm each day Directions on request.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>MGA Members Meeting Mediterranean Gardening Association - Portugal Meet members Meet your Board Update on progress Future events Launch of our web site</td>
<td>Quinta Jacintina, Almancil, Algarve 18.00 – 20.00 Invites with more information. coming out soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 1st - 3rd May keep the date free!</td>
<td>International Conference “The Portuguese Garden”</td>
<td>Sintra/Lisbon area, talks &amp; visits to historic public and private gardens, full details soon.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FROM Burford Hurry, President of Mediterranean Gardening Association (APEJECM)

The start to the rainy season has presaged well for the Algarve this year. Wonderful rains, some sunny spells and more rain - what could be better? My Iris unguicularis is in bloom and my volunteers /weeds are starting to fill the garden with green. I spotted the first tiny poppy seedlings last week. Also exhilarating was our first Garden Fair which the new Mediterranean Garden Association organised in Estoi on All Saints Day and which seemed to burst on the gardening scene like a rocket. The Fair really buzzed with an excitement which was so good to see. The weather was on our side as it was a warm, still day and the enthusiastic gardeners were out in full force buying and chatting and listening. Also good to see were the numbers of plants being carried out to the plant crèche to await more purchases or directly to vehicles. The catering done by the pousada was tasty and seemed to be enjoyed by the customers. All in all it was an
excellent beginning for the work of the Association. But it was only the start. Now we look forward to more growth and gardening with events planned for next year and the future. Although we have many ideas for the future activities of the Association, we would really like to ask you to suggest what is needed by you, the member. We would also like to hear from you about your concerns etc. and activities so that we can incorporate them into future programmes. We can learn from one another so please let us know. Email us at rosie@thebtf.net

**PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER and support the work of our new Association**

Burford Hurry

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

**OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND / PLANT SALE – Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December at the home of Rob and Rosie Peddle, Quinta das Sesmarias, Moncarapacho 11- 4.00**

If you were unable to get to the Garden Fair this year but are still looking for good garden plants for the Algarve, and want to catch the all important planting season, then please come along and browse the selection on offer. You can request a list and make a pre-order to ensure you will get the plants of your choice. We still have a few, a very few!, *Salvia discolor* and *Salvia X jamensis* (illustrated) as well as the lovely *Ballota pseudodictamnus* for sale.

All funds for the Mediterranean Gardening Association. There will be direction signs out on the day. We hope to have the NEW *Wild Orchids of the Algarve* book for sale and other new and second hand books, some seeds, and with the opportunity to look round the garden and have tea & buns. Directions available on request from rosie@thebtf.net or tel 289 791 869

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

**ALGARVE/PORTUGAL - MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN FAIR 2014 REPORT – RECORD BREAKING EVENT**

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our sixth Mediterranean Garden Fair on 1st November. What an amazing day, but, thank goodness we had sunshine – many of those attending remembered the deluges of 2012 at the same venue so it was a great bonus to have good weather this year. This was our first major event under the banner of our newly registered Portuguese Mediterranean Gardening Association. The new group has complete fiscal and legal status in Portugal and removes the previous concerns of being “non-registered”.

A new layout for the plant nurseries put everyone all together which made for a spectacular show of good quality plants. Highlights included good specimens of *Yucca rostrata*, the rarely offered *Dracaena cinnabari* and specialist native plant nursery SIGMETUM with seeds of Portuguese native plants offered for sale for the first time at our event. There was a very good selection of succulents on offer and in all 18 plant nurseries attended. We distributed a lot of free garden advice leaflets and a lot of free garden advice too ! The talks were popular, and the propagation workshop was quite a challenge to do in two languages but fortunately our visual aids (secateurs and soggy compost) worked just fine ! There was a special talk on Hoyas from Alan Butler of Brookside Nurseries, now based in Spain. The other talks were on Top Ten herbs for the Algarve from Medical Herbalist Daisy Mae and Fernanda Botelho gave us all encouragement to eat our flowers with her talk on edible flowers and culinary herbs.

The parking arrangements seemed to work well for the visitors, another first for this year was the shuttle bus. It was very popular and did a good job in ferrying those who wanted lifts to and from the car park. The Plant Creche was a new feature and allowed everyone to collect plants with their cars from one point at the end of their visit. These new arrangements were a huge experiment, and it became obvious that there is work to do on refining the arrangements for parking for our own hard working volunteers and for stall holders. Our less mobile visitors welcomed the provision of disabled parking on the site and this must be part of plans for the future. Thank you to anyone affected for your understanding on the day.
The MGA plant stall had a wonderful response from you and a big attraction this year was a stunning selection of Salvias including **S. discolor**, **S. involucrata**, **S. guaranatica** and the lovely little **S. x jamensis**. We had **Amaryllis belladonna** and **Scilla peruviana** bulbs for sale as well as second hand books, and the new Algarve Wild Flowers book on the MGA Info table inside the building. Not all proceeds are profit as we have had to pay for the books and some specially commissioned plants, and the cleaning of the car park, but we hope for a significant sum after all that has been taken into account. Our Treasurer, Richard Hickman, has been working hard on the accounting system that we must have for our new association so it is important to have our records accurate for the AGM coming up in 2015. There were also considerable set up costs this year for the new association so it was doubly important to make the event a success.

The real headline is the number of paying visitors to the event this year, a whopping 921 people! Taken together with all the volunteers and the stall holders and helpers we had about 1,000 people on site during the day. Lots of smiling faces, lots of bags full of plants and best of all, fabulous weather for our annual bash.

The event could not take place without the help and hard work of all our volunteers who turned out on the day, many many thanks to everyone who participated in making the event such a success. Many thanks also for the donations of nice clean plant pots in various sizes, they will go to good homes and be appearing at next year’s fair suitably filled with good plants!

The strong and growing interest in Mediterranean gardening and the need for good quality information, and appropriate plants, has been proved – and now we have had the best possible start for our gardening year. Everyone will be keen to get planting their new purchases, it was a very beautiful day and we all had a lot of fun. As always, please do let me know your thoughts, comments and suggestions if you were present on the day.

A reminder that you can request the full list and contact info for all the nurseries at the Garden Fair from rosie@thebtf.net  Photos on www.gardeninginportugal.com

PETITION for public access to Estoi Palace historic gardens has been launched by Filipe Ferreira of Estoi. In only one month he has collected 220 signatures. The petition will be handed to Faro Camara when it reaches 250 or more and the Estoi/Conceição Junta President has already signed it himself. The care and maintenance of the lower gardens is in the care of Faro Camara and it is an absolute disgrace that there is still no public access. Email rosie@thebtf.net for more info.

Seeds of Peace - A small business venture by Israeli MGS member Mr. Oron Peri.
Oron is a frequent contributor to the MGS Gardening Forum often posting comments and images about the bulbous plants of his part of the world. Collecting wild seed for commercial use is prohibited in Israel and plants in many habitats are in grave danger of extinction due to ever-expanding farms, tourism, settlements and of course the never-ending strife over borders.
Oron has begun in a small way, to farm many plants and then harvest the seed which he is now offering for sale through his business.
For more information and a plant list, Contact Oron Peri at oronperi@gmail.com

NEW BOOK ON THE WILD ORCHIDS OF THE ALGARVE

**Wild Orchids of the Algarve - how, when and where to find them** - Sue Parker
ISBN: 978-0-9560544-8-7; 128 pages; full colour; RRP £18.50 - Euros 23,-

Despite its small geographical area, Portugal’s Algarve region is home to at least 1500 native wildflower species including more than 30 wild orchids. For tourists and residents alike these are major attractions of the very varied Algarve countryside.
For newcomers in particular, wild orchids can be hard to find and even harder to identify. Wild Orchids of the Algarve solves these problems, providing easy-to-
follow introductions to the biology and habitats of orchids, and explaining in non-scientific language why the Algarve is such a special place. More than 200 colour photographs of the orchids, both in their natural settings and as stunning close-up pictures of their flowers, ensure that readers will be able to identify the orchids they find on countryside rambles. Also included are tips for photographing flowers, as well as a comprehensive guide to top orchid sites and walks in the various parts of the Algarve. An illustrated Table of Contents and a pictorial Glossary of Botanical Terms make this a uniquely accessible guidebook.

Written by author and broadcaster Sue Parker, this first ever comprehensive guide to the wild orchids of the Algarve is based on 16 years of research and photography in the area.

Comments by orchid experts who have seen and read advance copies of this book:
‘A comprehensive guide to the orchids specific to the Algarve with notes on occurrence and identification. The photographic material is excellent – people will undoubtedly be able to identify the orchids they find using this book.’ Dr. Finn Rasmussen.
‘Congratulations on your marvellous and complete book about Algarve Orchids’. Américo Pereira, Orquideas Soltas

Launch date - 1st December 2014 - for details of the special pre-launch offer... click here
Available in Portugal, together with other Algarve Wildlife books, via: Rosie Peddle – Secretary Mediterranean Gardening Association:
Web: www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org
Email: info@mediterraneangardeningportugal.org

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

GREEN ROOFS FOR MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATES
NEWS from Instituto Superior de Agronomia, University of Lisbon
NativeScapeGR project | https://www.facebook.com/nativescapegr | www.isa.utl.pt/proj/NativeScapeGR

We have 2 new publications online for general information about our project.
Green Roofs for Mediterranean Climates: Biocrust Roofs.
Shapedscape, 19.10.2014
http://www.shapedscape.com/articles/green-roofs-for-mediterranean-climates-biocrust-roots

The NativeScapeGR Project Encourages Green Roofing with Native Species.
Inhabitat, 16.10.2014

Curso "Impermeabilização, Paredes Verdes e Coberturas Ajardinadas" (3ª edição) - 27 e 28 de Novembro de 2014
A Landlab está a organizar, em conjunto com o Instituto Superior de Engenharia da Universidade do Algarve e a Ordem dos Engenheiros - Região Sul, a 3ª edição do Curso IMPERMEABILIZAÇÃO, PAREDES VERDES e COBERTURAS AJARDINADAS.
Este curso realizar-se-á nos dias 27 e 28 de Novembro 2014 no Instituto Superior de Engenharia da Universidade do Algarve, Faro

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

MGA SPONSORS TRAINEE PLACEMENTS – We are very pleased to confirm that a group of five second year trainees from the Professional Gardeners Guild of the UK will visit the Algarve for
one week to visit gardens and gain some experience of Mediterranean gardening. The MGA will sponsor their visit but they will also receive major sponsorship from the PGG. [http://www.pgg.org.uk](http://www.pgg.org.uk)

The trainees will have work experience at Monserrate Park and Palace in Sintra for one week and then will travel to the Algarve on Saturday 28th March. The full programme for their visit is not yet confirmed but we hope to have an opportunity for members of MGA to meet the trainees and hear more about their course on Sunday 29th March at the Quinta.

**NEWS FROM CHILTERN SEEDS**  The new 2015 Preview Catalogue is out now, those who place an order worth over £15 will automatically receive a postcard that will entitle you to 15% off your next order – ideal for when the main 2015 catalogue comes out around Christmas time! Use this link to request a catalogue, [http://www.chilternseeds.co.uk/catrequest.php](http://www.chilternseeds.co.uk/catrequest.php)

**The Route of Stone and Water** has just opened and is a new nature tourism route in the north of Portugal in the area between Porto and Vila Real, [https://www.facebook.com/RotaH20Pedra](https://www.facebook.com/RotaH20Pedra), the new route is one of the nature tourism routes that runs through the territory of seven municipalities (Arouca, Castelo de Paiva, Castro Daire, Cinfães, San Pedro South, Sever do Vouga and Vale de Cambra) and that stretches to the Douro, the Paiva, and the Vouga rivers, passing by the mountains of Freita, Arada and Montemuro. The Route of Stone and Water offers a different discovery of these hills and ridges, as it unravels the rich natural and cultural heritage of the region, centered on the rivers and mountains that form it.

Different views and vistas along the Rota were chosen by taking into consideration the multiple components of its natural and built heritage, natural such as rivers and waterfalls, the built heritage closely tied to water and stone (such as mills, levadas and aqueducts), geological heritage, fossils and trace fossils, petroglyphs and megalithic heritage and its rich biological diversity.

Interested parties may access a presentation of the Route of Water and Stone and view a video / teaser from the route here [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsl-0RgPK-s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsl-0RgPK-s)

A visit to the points of interest on the Route of Stone and Water will be supported by a field guide showing the route through these spectacular and special landscapes.

**MGA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

We are a friendly and informal group for everyone who has a special interest in the plants and gardens of Mediterranean climates. The aims of the new MGA (Mediterranean Gardening Association) include education and encouraging the exchange of information and of experiences.

Our new web site is being prepared to launch soon, in the meantime there is a holding page available at [www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org) [www.gardeninginportugal.com](http://www.gardeninginportugal.com) contains articles on diverse aspects of mediterranean gardening as well as news, notices, practical information and comment.

**MGA Contact:** Rosie Peddle, Quinta das Sesmarias 275-M, Fornalha, Moncarapacho, OLHÃO 8700-091  Tel. 289 791 869  Email rosie@thebtf.net  Newsletter contributions welcome.

**Regional Contacts:**

- **Lisbon area** – Ben Weijers Paquete, Tel: 219 291 841  Email: quintadocorvo@yahoo.com
- **Beira area** – Marion ter Horst, Tel: 235 721 193  Email: arnold.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

All information is normally distributed via email but can also be posted on request. Please pass on this newsletter to anyone interested. Post your plant, garden pics or queries here [www.facebook.com/MediterraneanGardenersPortugal](http://www.facebook.com/MediterraneanGardenersPortugal)

Further information about the Mediterranean Garden Society can be found on the main web site [www.mediterraneangardensociety.org](http://www.mediterraneangardensociety.org)

If you no longer wish to receive these newsletters then please do let me know by sending a return email to rosie@thebtf.net with REMOVE in the subject line.