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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Info</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28/29/30 March</td>
<td>3rd International Spring Conference, Algarve Group Event</td>
<td>Theme for 2014 is DRY MEDITERRANEAN GARDENING with special emphasis on the succulent plants of South Africa and Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helpers Needed!</td>
<td>Lecture by Roy Lancaster on Woody Plants for Mediterranean Gardens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Specialist Plant &amp; Book Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 5th</td>
<td>Founding AGM for Mediterranean Gardening Association - Portugal</td>
<td>A first opportunity to learn more about our future plans, to get involved and to discuss coming events. Held at Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>ALL WELCOME</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Kew Publishing new book by Chris Thorogood &amp; Simon Hiscock</td>
<td>Book launch, books for sale / meet the authors. Presentation &amp; wild flower walk at Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 5th</td>
<td>Algarve Wild Flowers – Field Guide</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Visit to gardens of Granada and Córdoba organised by MGS Costa Blanca Branch</td>
<td>Contact Edith Haeuser 0034 966 47 11 61 Email <a href="mailto:edith.haeuser@gmail.com">edith.haeuser@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00pm</td>
<td>MGS AGM 2014 at Menton, on the French Riviera</td>
<td>Garden visits on the Côte d'Azur. There will be two optional days of garden visits on Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 October</td>
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**ALGARVE/PORTUGAL - NEWS**

**Mediterranean Dry Gardening**
3rd INTERNATIONAL SPRING CONFERENCE  
Friday/Saturday/Sunday - March 28 / 29 / 30, 2014  
Keynote Speaker, Saturday 29 March - Roy Lancaster OBE VMH

**HELPERS WANTED FOR THIS EVENT**
IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME ALONG PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING OUT FOR AN HOUR OR SO on BOOK & PLANT SALES, RECEPTION DESK, RAFFLE TICKETS ETC. Perhaps you could offer help with transport for garden visits. Contact Rosie at rosie@thebtf.net for more info and THANK YOU !!
All are welcome to join us for this very special weekend focussed firmly on plant choices when creating dry gardens in Mediterranean climate zones. At this time of year the spectacular wild flowers of the Algarve are looking at their best. Also offered will be Algarve natural history book sales and garden visits with lots of opportunities for good planty chat with other keen gardeners.

A full weekend programme includes talks on succulent plants from South Africa and Mexico, Woody Plants for Mediterranean Gardens, specialist plant & book sales and garden visits.

Mr Roy Lancaster, OBE VMH, renowned plantsman, plant hunter and author. An opportunity to hear this world famous, popular and enthusiastic speaker with his personal selection of woody plants from the botanically rich and often over looked Siskiyou Mountains of California and Oregon and other “woodies” Roy suggests as suitable for Mediterranean gardens. We are very pleased to welcome Roy & Sue back for another visit to the Algarve.

Mr Paul Spracklin says that it eventually dawned on him that he should seek out plants that satisfied his desire to grow exotic and architectural plants but also make the whole thing rather more sustainable in a dry Essex garden. This led to him making several field trips to Mexico and his main area of interest now is all the members of the Agave plant family.

Mr Derek Tribble has been growing cacti & succulents as an amateur since teenage years. His passion now is growing and studying South African leaf succulents, after fifteen visits to photograph these plants in nature. Derek will share with us his enthusiasm for the succulent plants of South Africa.

Other presentations include A Beginners Guide to Succulents; Geology of the Algarve & Mediterranean; and sessions on Agaves and on Aloes. A new feature will be daily discussion sessions with the key speakers and opportunities to ask questions.

Put the dates in your diary, spread the word, and contact Rosie Peddle at rosie@thebtf.net

Please reserve your places as soon as possible.

APEJECM - ASSOCIAÇÃO DE PLANTAS E JARDINS EM CLIMAS MEDITERRÁNICOS
Mediterranean Gardening Association – Portugal
Founding AGM to be held Saturday 5th April 2.00pm at Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves

Our new legal entity has now been registered with the Registo Nacional and with the Civil Registry in Loule. We will hold our first AGM on 5th April and will be able to complete registration with the Finances and open a bank account shortly after that.

The new not for profit association with a formal legal identity in Portugal was essential if we are to continue with the popular annual events such as the Garden Fair and the Conference Weekend. We will continue to fully integrate MGS members in Portugal into all activities and send on news of events, newsletters etc.

Please contact Rosie if you plan to attend this meeting so that we have an idea of numbers for preparation for the meeting and to distribute the agenda.

More news to follow, please get in touch with Rosie if you have any queries or can offer to help with this next exciting stage in our growth here. We welcome volunteers to help run the new Association and take part in the development of a new web site, local events, gardening resources and plant trials.

NEW PUBLICATION by Kew Publishing – Saturday April 5th at Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves

An opportunity to meet the authors, there will be a short presentation and wild flower walk at the Quinta to launch the publication of this important milestone for natural history of the Algarve. Field Guide to the Wild Flowers of the Algarve Authors: Chris Thorogood and Simon Hiscock

Find out more at www.kewbooks.com

This is the first comprehensive identification guide to the rich Mediterranean flora of the Algarve region of southern Portugal, including the Cape St. Vincent Peninsula National Park, an area of immense botanical importance with numerous endemic and rare species. The Algarve is one of the most popular holiday destinations in Europe (it receives more than 7 million tourists per annum),
and this guide is the essential companion for wildlife tourists, and the first comprehensive easy-to-use identification guide to its wild flowers.

Information is provided on where and when to see plants with information on their habitat and vegetation types. In addition rare and unusual plants of the region are highlighted, including orchids and parasitic plants. With over 1,000 species descriptions, the book is abundantly illustrated throughout with over 650 stunning colour photographs, 780 line drawings and distribution maps.

This has now been published and we will have copies for sale on the day and at our Spring Conference at a special discounted price of 36 euros.

http://www.algarvewildlife.com/aw-events.php for more information

CERATONIA herb & food gardens Some of you will already be aware that Ceratonia now has a website and a blog. For those that have not been updated with what Corey and Daisy Mae have been up to see www.ceratoniagardens.com Ceratonia is in the Algarve, it is 8 acres which are being tenderly landscaped and planted into gardens with huge respect and guidance from the abundant variety of plants already growing. The aim is to create wonderful herb and food gardens, an oasis of peace that is landscaped harmoniously with the natural land that is there now.

The land is organic, and has never had any intensive farming activities on it, and now implements organic and companion gardening practises, with Permaculture (applied ecology) and Agroforestry ideas. We are happy to gain help from volunteers, apprentices and those who understand the health benefits from tending to the land. Unless already discussed, we will be ready for Volunteers by February 2014. Contact email ceratoniagardens@gmail.com

Gardening articles in The Resident, past and present, can be viewed online via a new web site http://portugalresident.com/categories/gardening-0 Sue Parker, Marilyn Medina Ribeiro, Burford Hurry and Rosie Peddle all send in regular articles on natural history, sustainable and many other aspects of gardening and landscaping. Please share your gardening experiences here on the Algarve and put an article together, details from Rosie rosie@thebtf.net We need about 600 words plus one or two images.

Mediterranean Gardening - Online Talks now available

Mediterranean Ecology, Prof. Oliver Rackham https://vimeo.com/48385302

Invasive Plants in Portugal & Mediterranean, Dr Elizabeth Marchante https://vimeo.com/74381589

Bulbs, Corms & Rhizomes for Mediterranean Gardens, John Fielding https://vimeo.com/71566334

An organic produce market will be held at Querença on the Algarve on the last Sunday of every month, the market runs from 10.00 to 13.00 and there will be some activities and tastings. http://www.projectoquerenca.com/pt/mercado.html for more information.

NEWS from the Gardens and Landscapes of Portugal journal

http://www.chaia_gardens_landscapesofportugal.uevora.pt/journal.html

If you follow the above link you will find all editions of this online journal.

AN ECOLOGY BEFORE ECOLOGY: the respect for the genius loci


The proper ecology for each country Sala 6 | 11 Apr. 2014 (friday) | 18:00pm
The Group Bulb Order in 2013 has been ably steered by Richard Hickman. This has been a great success and many unusual bulbs not normally available on the Algarve have found their way into our gardens thanks to Richard and his patient negotiation of bulb companies and their catalogues. Richard’s advice now is that we should think about getting our orders in earlier so that we get the best choice. We also hope to get some feedback from you about the bulbs and how they perform here. Please send in your comments and share the successes and any failures so that we can learn more about the best performers. We need a new volunteer for 2014. If anyone would like to take on coordinating a joint bulb order please let me know.

OLIVE TREE OFFER

There is a further project from Natura Algarve/Olea Viva to rescue olive trees from old plantations due for destruction in the Alentejo. This is an excellent opportunity to make use of olive trees to replace dead and diseased palm trees with an environmentally sustainable alternative. These olive trees are 250 to 300 years old. For anyone who can rescue only one tree, their best offer is 400 € transport included but, as usual, they are much cheaper by the lorry load!

Natura are also currently offering an alternative solution to lawn problems with Zoysia tenuifolia. This provides a fine green undulating surface with significant reductions in maintenance, reduces water consumption by 70 per cent and no pests or diseases. If you wish to reduce the size of your lawn or just have a small natural surface near to house or pool, this could be worth considering. Contact Natura for further details info@naturalgarve.com Web site www.naturalgarve.com

2014 Mediterranean City Conference in Athens, Greece

The Mediterranean City Climate Change Consortium (MC-4) is a vibrant network composed of practitioners, policymakers, business leaders, and academics from Mediterranean-climate cities across the globe. The mission is to improve the management of urban climate change impacts and to increase and preserve the social, economic and environmental health of Mediterranean-climate regions across the five Mediterranean-climate regions.

One of the pillars of MC-4 is the Mediterranean City Conference. In 2012, the Council held the first ever Mediterranean City Conference in Los Angeles, California. The conference addressed the integrated issues common to Mediterranean cities with work groups gathered around the following six interrelated topics: Water, Energy, Biodiversity, Built Environment, Public Health and Governance. The work groups then reconvened across disciplines and around the three pillars of sustainability: economic, social, and ecological health. The result was a systems approach to solutions that recognizes overlaps and gaps across disparate fields. Currently, we are planning the next The Mediterranean City Conference in Athens, Greece to be held from June 9th-11th, 2014 at the Academy of Athens. http://www.mc-4.org

MGS Portugal is a Partner in a project researching and investigating using green roof technology in mediterranean climates. A new FCT program for exploratory projects is currently open and we supported the application from Teresa Afonso do Paço, Ph D, of the Instituto Superior de Agronomia in Lisbon.

We are very pleased to let you know that the project was successful and now has confirmed funding from the government sponsored Science Investigation Fund. Our warm congratulations to Teresa and her team for this mammoth effort!

This project will be focussed on the creation of green roof spaces using native species and is directed to investigating use of this technology for the southern regions of Europe. It is part of the work of the Biosystems Engineering Dept. - Water, Natural Resources and Climate at the Instituto Superior de Agronomia Technical University of Lisbon

http://www.isa.utl.pt/proj/H2Olive3s/#
Beira Gardening Group is a friendly and informal group developing an exciting events programme with a whole weekend in May planned around a Flower Show in Tabua and other events. Follow the links below for more information. Blog: http://beiragrassroots.blogspot.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BeiraGrassRoots http://beiragrassroots-library.blogspot.pt Email: beiragrassroots@sapo.pt

Park and Palace of Monseratte, Sintra, Lisbon

One of the topics for a talk at our Spring Conference will be the restoration and renovation of the historic garden dedicated to Mexico at Monseratte Park. I recommend you to visit Monseratte if you have the opportunity. It is not very far from the historic centre of Sintra and is one of the most beautiful architectural and landscape Romantic creations in Portugal: unique representative of 19th century eclecticism. The recently restored Palace interior combines gothic and Indian influences as well as Moorish suggestions together with exotic and plant motifs which are harmoniously extended to the exterior. The gardens have received species from all corners of the world, which were planted according to their geographical origin. The front lawn of the Palace provides a well-deserved restful area, while discovering one of the richest Portuguese botanical gardens.


Sunday 4 – Friday 9 May 2014 Visit to Granada and Córdoba Organised by the MGS Costa Blanca Branch, all welcome.

On this tour, which will be open to other branches as well, we will visit the Alhambra and its Generalife Gardens, which have attracted so many visitors over the centuries, several carmenes and the historic Botanic Garden of the University of Granada. In Córdoba we will have a guided tour of about ten patio gardens, which are open to the public in May and are competing for a special award. We will also visit the gardens of the Palacio de Viana and the Patio de los naranjos, which belongs to the Mezquita-Cathedral, and the gardens of the Alcazar de los reyes Cristianos. The tour will end with a visit to the botanic garden of Córdoba.

Further details will soon be available. Contact MGS Costa Blanca Branch Head, Edith Haeuser 0034 966 47 11 61 Email edith.haeuser@gmail.com

PLACEMENTS - there are from time to time UK trained or partly trained horticulturists looking for work experience in the Mediterranean. If any member has a garden or works in a garden which might be able to offer a paid placement or work share opportunities with some mentoring and instruction please let me know. This is an ongoing request so please keep this in mind and let us know of any young professionals or students who may be interested.

ADVANCE NOTICE - MGS AGM 2014 This year organised jointly by MGS UK and MGS France branch heads.

13-16 October Pre-General Assembly tour of Languedoc and Provence, Montpellier & Avignon Visits include Olivier Filippi experimental and demonstration garden and nursery in Mèze; Les Confines garden in Noves guided by its owner, Dominique Lafourcade, one of Provence's most respected garden designers; a day in the Luberon with visits to the gardens of La Carmejane in Ménerbes and Nicole de Vesian's iconic garden, La Louve, in Bonnieux; in the Var a visit to Domain D’Orvès in La Valette guided by its owner, Françoise Darlington and a drive through Provence to Menton.

16-20 October International General Assembly Program, Menton Visits to the gardens of Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild, the Jardin Exotique in Monaco, La Serre de la Madone and the Hanbury Botanic Gardens at La Mortola. The General Assembly itself will be held in the Old Fort in Ventimiglia on 19 October, followed by illustrated presentations by Louisa Jones and Laura de Beden.
20-22 October Post-General Assembly optional extra days, Menton
Visits to four other notable gardens in and close to Menton. For very fit and able-bodied members there will be one further visit to a specialist fruit and vegetable garden spread over 32 levels of steep hillside.

Numbers may have to be limited for the pre-tour, the optional extra days and the specialist vegetable garden visit. Registration will open at the beginning of May on the website.

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International Garden Photographer of the Year exhibition, Kew Gardens, London
Sat 15 February - Sun 30 March 2014

The International Garden Photographer of the Year (IGPOTY) exhibition showcases winners and runners-up from this prestigious annual competition. The exhibition is free with tickets to the Gardens. Exquisite images from the competition are on display in the Nash Conservatory. The exhibition showcases the best garden and plant photography from around the world - and it’s not just flowers. Inspired by the world of plants and gardens, the winning images range from breathtakingly delicate close-ups of plants, to broad sweeps of wildflower landscapes, from homely vegetables to mighty forests, from urban cityscapes to rural idylls. www.igpoty.com

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Languedoc NEWS http://mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com/gdGL.htm
Click on this link to view a wonderful set of reports on the demonstration garden of Olivier Filippi in south west France. Many of you will know the famous dry garden plant nursery of Olivier and Clara Filippi, www.jardin-sec.com The Languedoc MGS group has set up an occasional diary in words and pictures, starting with a view of the garden at the hottest and driest time of year. Currently there are five reports starting in August 2011 through to June 2012. This is a bilingual site in French and English.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We have a friendly and informal group for everyone who has a special interest in the plants and gardens of Mediterranean climates and the Algarve. The aims of the new Association include encouraging the exchange of information and of experiences. The newsletters & www.gardeninginportugal.com contain articles on diverse aspects of mediterranean gardening as well as news, notices, practical information and comment. 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 https://www.facebook.com/MediterraneanGardenersPortugal
Further information about the Mediterranean Garden Society can be found on the main web site www.mediterraneangardensociety.org There is now a facility for joining and paying subscriptions online. MGS subscriptions are due for renewal in January. With our new Association there is the opportunity to join one or both.

Regional Contacts:
Lisbon area – Ben Weijers, 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

Contact & Newsletter Compiler: Rosie Peddle, Quinta das Sesmarias 275-M, Fornalha, Moncarapacho, OLHAO 8700-091 Tel. & Email as above. Newsletter contributions welcome.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MARION TER HORST NOW HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Marion ter Horst Email arnold.terhorst@gmail.com