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 estaja interessado em jardinagem 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>2016/17</th>
<th>EVENTS</th>
<th>Info</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date to be Confirmed</td>
<td>Western Algarve Group Brainstorming First Event planned! For news of events in and around the Lagos area</td>
<td>For more Info contact Jeanette Fahlbusch Email <a href="mailto:jeanettealicefahlbusch@gmail.com">jeanettealicefahlbusch@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paderne (Thursday 8th) and Almancil (Friday 9th) September 2016</td>
<td>&quot;Back to the Future - What Ornamental Trees do I Plant?&quot; Maximum of 25 places each day - book early to ensure you can attend.</td>
<td>For more info and to book your place contact Burford Hurry Email <a href="mailto:burfordhpt@gmail.com">burfordhpt@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday October 29 2016</td>
<td>DATE FOR YOUR DIARY! MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN FAIR</td>
<td>São Bras de Alportel Contact Burford Hurry Email <a href="mailto:burfordhpt@gmail.com">burfordhpt@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>EARLY NOTICE ! Saturday 4 March 2017</td>
<td>Spring Plant Fair Plant Nurseries, Quinta guided tours, book sales and Garden Advice</td>
<td>Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves FREE parking Bigger and Better !</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 1st April 2017</td>
<td>MGAP AGM / Assembleia Geral the business meeting will be followed by a talk, lunch and a wildflower walk.</td>
<td>Details to be confirmed – All Welcome but only MGAP Members eligible to vote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10 to Saturday 13 May 2017</td>
<td>International Spring Conference May 2017 Based in Provence, garden tours, lectures and nursery visits Residential packages available</td>
<td>Organised by Mediterranean Gardening France</td>
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Message from Burford Hurry,
President - Mediterranean Gardening Association of Portugal

You turn your back for one minute and the next thing you know the garden is overgrown and demanding attention and the volunteers/weeds are celebrating their freedom. The unusually heavy and late rains that ushered in the spring this year certainly encouraged everything to grow exponentially. Gardens and the growth in the countryside doubled in size in days. I am not complaining as the rain was very welcome. It is really just an observation but there were other incidences in the garden, the vineyards and orchards in the Algarve that have also been different. Many grape flowers in the local vineyards from Loule to Olhao inexplicably shrivelled and died over night. One gardening friend says that he will not have one single bunch of grapes this year compared to the baskets he picked in previous years. He is not the only one. My pomegranate is infested with aphids on a scale that I have never seen before.

Heavy rain, volunteers, crop failures, aphids all designed to test the patience of us gardeners. But then patience is a quality that most gardeners have and which, combined with observation, enables us over the years to learn lessons from challenges like these. We recognise that every year will be better in some respects than the previous one and avoid the almost involuntary reflex action of using insecticides and herbicides to fix a problem. I like to think that we realise that in the long term ‘immediate solutions’ in pursuit of the perfect garden will not benefit the soil or plants in the garden or us. We know that the grapes in the vineyard will be good some years and in others will be poor.

And if there have been unexpected glitches in the garden there have also been some delights. My Grewia occidentalis (pic above) and my Capers (pic below) are flourishing and flowering with no sign of aphids and with no summer irrigation. Similarly a neighbour’s glorious shiny, glossy-leaved Myrtus communis is alight with fragile white blossoms. And while driving through the countryside this summer morning I saw more delights - drifts of snow white Clematis flammula in the countryside, orange Campsis radicans, cascades of colourful bougainvillea, a dazzling range of oleanders – even my favourite - a pale delicate shell pink flower, Nature showing us once again that provided we plant the right plant in the right spot she will deliver the goods even in searing heat.

In conclusion and before I wish you a good summer season in the garden, I would like to mention my recent trip to Cape Town and the informal talk to the garden society members. The meeting there was very productive and provided an opportunity to meet fellow gardeners and build stronger ties with the Cape Horticultural Society. There will be another opportunity to meet other gardeners in France next year as the Mediterranean Gardening France is hosting a meeting in May.

So the year ahead promises to be an interesting one for MGAP as we build on the success of the Spring Conference and look forward to the Autumn Fair and other local events. We need your help on our Management Committee so please consider joining us to help as Events Coordinator or Treasurer and be part of the group setting future priorities for the Association.

Once again, here’s wishing you good gardening. Burford Hurry

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MGAP Book Sales - in addition to a range of gardening books, we now hold the full list of books published by First Nature on the Algarve. This includes the new Algarve Wildlife, the natural year published earlier this year in a completely revised and substantially enlarged edition, cost 25 euro. In addition there are guides to the wildflowers and orchids of the Algarve.

More info and book order enquiries to Rosie Peddle rosie@thebtf.net

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"Back to the Future - What Ornamental Trees do I Plant?"

Paderne (8th) and Almancil (9th) September 2016
Maximum of 25 places each day - book early to ensure you can attend.
These two visits will show the long-term effect of the decisions you make on what trees to plant. The two mature Algarve gardens will demonstrate the potential size, spread and shape of a large number of trees that were planted up to 40 years ago, allowing you to think for the long term and help you select the best trees for the location you are developing. Book places directly with Burford Hurry burfordhpt@gmail.com

Western Algarve – MGAP Activities

“Calling all passionate Gardeners - new Mediterranean Gardening Group in Lagos!”
The Mediterranean Gardening Association acts as a forum for anyone passionate about plants and gardens of the Mediterranean regions. The Portugal branch is currently based in the Eastern Algarve, but there are now plans to have an informal group for the western Algarve, based in Lagos. This is expressly for those interested in plants and gardens to come together for visits to gardens and plant nurseries or just to chat over a coffee with the aim to combine the "intellectual, practical and sociable”. For example by organising interesting talks etc, practical hands on garden sessions with local professionals, and a sociable aspect: private garden plant sales / seed exchanges, coupled with maybe luncheons etc.
Anyone interested in becoming actively involved can contact Jeanette either by email or phone 969 439 867, and she hopes to then arrange for a brainstorming first meeting.
Please contact Jeanette for more information and to keep in touch on future plans.
Jeanette Fahlbusch email jeannettealicefahlbusch@gmail.com

Mediterranean Garden Fair 2016

Provisionally in conjunction with the Câmara Municipal de São Bras de Alportel (tbc)

This year, we are planning to do something different in order to provide better facilities for our visitors and exhibitors. The new location will create an enhanced atmosphere and by working with the Câmara, new facilities will become available. Put this date in your diary now, with more information being posted as things are confirmed.

As ever, VOLUNTEERS are needed to make the event a success, so please contact Burford Hurry if you can help.. email burfordhpt@gmail.com

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 & alternatives to the lawn.

Available NOW on the Algarve – orders to rosie@thebtf.net
[at the MGAP price of 35 euros]

This book was published early this year and widely acclaimed as an inspirational guide for those wishing to increase the diversity of plants in their gardens. Please let us know if you are interested in purchasing a copy of this special book so that we can reserve your copy.
**Seeds of Peace** - A small business venture in Israel by Oron Peri and Mansour Yassin

Oron is a frequent contributor to the Mediterranean 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 harvest the seed which he is now offering for sale through his business.

Contact Oron at oronperi@gmail.com for newly issued Summer list of bulb seed, some very rare.


And his talk on Treasures of the Eastern Mediterranean is available here [https://vimeo.com/160721311](https://vimeo.com/160721311)

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**A Nossa Terra Association in Monchique** is planning a weekend bashing an alien invader in the Monchique area, *Phytolacca americana* (Tintureira) is a plant from North America which was introduced as a dye plant for textiles and it is now a threat to native plants [http://anossaterra.org](http://anossaterra.org)

check the web site for more details

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**LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017**

**Saturday March 4th 2017 - Spring Garden Fair**

At Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves. Members and guests only entry at 10.00am – open to the public from 11.00am Entry fee one euro **Helpers Needed**!

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**Saturday April 1st 2017**

**Annual General Meeting / Assembleia Geral**

Details to be confirmed but a date for your diary, the business meeting will be followed by a talk, lunch and a wildflower walk in a different location on the Algarve.

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**Mediterranean Gardening International event**

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!**

**International Spring Conference May 2017**

Based in Aix-en-Provence, garden tours, lectures and nursery visits

Mediterranean Gardening France (MGF - our sister organisation in MGi) is busy planning their first International Spring Conference for May 2017. This will be held to replace the Spring Event which has taken place in Portugal, so there will be no Spring Conference in Portugal in 2017.

It will include lectures, garden and nursery visits, apart from the important activity of networking with fellow mediterranean gardeners. Early expressions of interest are invited. Provisional plans are for three nights in Aix-en-Provence, commencing on the evening of Wednesday 10th May and finishing on the morning of Saturday 13th May. Since Aix is the city of Cézanne, it is planned to have a theme based around the links between mediterranean gardens and art, and hope to include lectures, garden visits and a wild flower walk near to the montagne Sainte-Victoire, painted so many times by Cézanne. There will also be an information pack of other things to do in and around Aix for those who might like to stay a little longer. Aix is a beautiful city and very easy to get around on foot.

Residential packages will be available, all details to be confirmed but please register your interest for more details and to make bookings direct with conference organiser Christine Savage email cs.savage@btopenworld.com

**Friday 5 to Wednesday 10 MAY 2017** – There will be a tour of some very special gardens in the south of France, near Avignon. More details will follow but please contact Guy Cheeseman (guyrc@hotmail.co.uk) to register an interest. If you want more information you are welcome to call Guy on 00 33 490 126 959 This will take place immediately before the Spring Conference and will be a lovely additional reason to visit Provence next May.
NEWS of a new Inventory of Historic Gardens in Portugal now available online.  
http://europeangardens.eu/inventories/pt/

Information about each garden or site can called up on two levels, by region and via links to other websites which already hold information on historic gardens. The web site is still in development and as such, is rather clunky to use. Approx. 120 gardens and sites of landscape interest have been entered with details and the full list identifies 700 sites.

As there is no information on the criteria, this is a very basic list and forms part of the European Garden list held under the auspices of Institut Européen des Jardins & Paysages. Congratulations are due to the sponsors on achieving this start to an excellent project.

The web site is in various languages and tries to show which sites are open to the public and which need a special request to visit.

NEWS OF EVENTS in Mediterranean Gardening International

EVENTS IN SISTER ORGANISATIONS (MGAP Members will be welcomed at any of the following events, subject to availability of places. Please contact the local organiser shown.)

Information on events in South Africa and Margaret River region in Australia also available via http://www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org

Activities are open to MGAP members, members of partner associations and, where places are available, guests. Where the number of places for a particular event is limited, priority will be given to local members.

MPG - Mediterranean Plants and Gardens, UK more info http://www.medpag.org/events.html

Please email Heather Martin hma@clara.net

Thursday 15 September 2016 MPG – UK Mediterranean Gardeners

Matthew Pottage, curator of RHS Wisley, will lead a group of our members on a tour of parts of Wisley’s gardens relevant to the Mediterranean on the morning of Thursday 15 September, starting at approximately 10.00 am. The tour will be followed by lunch in the restaurant. Wisley gardens are some 25 miles south-west of central London. If you are interested please contact the organiser, Melvyn Jope, meljope@hotmail.com

Saturday 14 January 2017 – Winter meeting at the Chelsea Physic Garden, London. Guest speaker: John Grimshaw. His talk to us will be about interesting plants suited to the Mediterranean. The winter meeting will be at the Chelsea Physic Garden and will include an update on MPG activities and lunch.

March 2017 – Plans are under way for an eight-night visit to Jordan focussing on wild plants, seeing birds and historical sites as well. Please email me (hma@clara.net) if you are interested. The cost is expected to be about £900 per person double occupancy, £1030 for a single room, excluding air fares.

Sunday 25 to Wednesday 28 June 2017 – Provisional date for the MPG UK summer garden tour.

November 2017 – Autumn bulbs of the Peloponnese (to be confirmed)

MGF – France Mediterranean Gardeners http://mediterraneangardeningfrance.org/baEvtAll.htm

For more information and to book a place, please email: Christine Savage cs.savage@btopenworld.com

14/15 September, Durban-Corbières and Caunes, Aude

Garden visits and a talk on grasses Visits to the Jardin Botanique Mériditain at Durban-Corbières, to Gill Pound’s garden at la Petite Pépinière de Caunes, including a talk on how to grow, propagate and design with grasses, to Imogen and Kate’s very new experimental garden, Le Jardin Champêtre, and a wild flower walk.

Saturday 17 September, 10.00am, La Gaude and Vence (Alpes-Maritimes)

Visit to the gardens of L’Argelière and Villa Mariela, and the Matisse chapel Martin Smith has organised this day out which starts with a visit to the garden of Lysiane Offerhaus, in la Gaude. We’ll have lunch in the terraced garden at Villa Mariela, Martin’s home in Vence, where he grows many interesting exotic and some tender species, then visit the nearby Rosaire chapel, designed by Henri Matisse, and inaugurated in 1951.

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NEWS from Bulb'Argence – “Several species are sold out but there are many promotions, because we have to reduce our stock (Amaryllis belladonna, Asphodelus, Narcissus, Freesia, Scilla peruviana, Cyclamen, Freesia, Moraea). We continue restructuring to reduce stock. This summer you will have the opportunity to acquire a large number of products at promotional prices. Do not hesitate to consult our offers. Currently we are in full harvest. Shipments will begin in early July. Plant your order upon receipt. No watering until early September.”

Lauw and Joelle de Jager
Bulb’Argence Mas d’Argence 30300 Fourques France
www.bulbargence.com contact@bulbargence.com Tél/fax : 04.66.01.65.19

PLANT LABELS & SEED PACKETS available to buy from rosie@thebtf.net
Pot labels white matt plastic accepts pencil 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

REPORTS ON PAST EVENTS now available on MGAP web site via the links below
Burford Hurry talk in South Africa
http://newsandevents.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/2016/05/cape-horticultural-society-talk-by.html
Spring Conference report and photos
http://newsandevents.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/2016/05/report-on-2016-spring-conference.html
And also
http://www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org/baRptInt2016n02.htm

could be the missing piece !

The MGAP Management Committee currently has vacancies for an Events Coordinator and a Treasurer, if you are interested in helping to develop the calendar of events or the worthy task of looking after the hard earned funds, please contact Rob Peddle rob@thebtf.net or Burford Hurry email burfordhpt@gmail.com

RHS CHELSEA 2016 - Comments from John Fielding on plants at the show with a Mediterranean connection and comments on the gardens designed by Andy Sturgeon, James Basson, Nick Bailey, Hugo Bugg and Jekka McVicar as well as displays in the Floral Marquee.
http://www.medpag.org/rhs-chelsea-2016.html

Mediterranean Gardening Forum members of MGAP can access this forum via the link at top right of the front page of our web site www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org

There are sections devoted to advice, plant identification and wildlife in the garden as well as events. MGAP has a section for all our Minutes of AGM and Board meetings and the 2016 AGM Minutes will shortly be posted.

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.
Web site www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org contains articles as well as news, notices, practical information and comment. Please pass on this newsletter to anyone interested.
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 rosie@thebtf.net