



MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN SOCIETY

LANGUEDOC BRANCH

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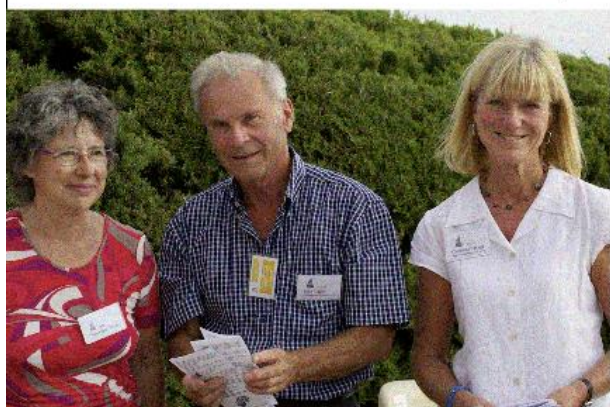
January 2013 Newsletter No 1

Dear Languedoc members and friends,

Liz Godfrey, a member living in the Aveyron, had a surprise when she opened the winter edition (no 15) of "L'Art des Jardins" and spotted this photo on page 54, so sent me an email to see whether I had seen it. It was taken in October at the Domaine du Rayol when one of the editors paused to look at the MGS stand then stayed to ask us about the activities of the MGS.

Dominique, Jean and I (pictured) were part of a team of twelve members who manned the stand for two days and gave out over 500 leaflets about dry gardening techniques to visitors to the garden festival.

Mediterranean Garden Society. Une association pour les jardins méditerranéens



Très active à travers plusieurs pays d'Europe, cette association se mobilise aussi pour un jardinage vertueux. Que vous soyez en train de créer ou d'entretenir un jardin, elle fournit tous les conseils pour éviter le gaspillage d'eau et choisir les plantes adaptées à un climat méditerranéen. Bref pour réussir un « jardin sec » ! Au-delà des judicieux conseils, l'association organise débats, manifestations culturelles et visites, grâce à plusieurs membres très actifs du Languedoc à la Provence, que l'on peut aussi croiser sur des fêtes des plantes.

www.societedesjardinsmediterraneens.org

Languedoc AGM in the Vaucluse

I'm attaching minutes of our 2012 AGM which formed the centrepiece of two days of eating, drinking and conviviality in wineries and in members' homes. We also managed to get some good decision making done and now have the provisional programme of activities for 2013 agreed in outline. I'm setting it out in full here so that you can do some diary planning and have shown events that are still at the 'idea' stage in *italic*.

Programme of activities for 2013

Thursday 31 January at 10.30 in Montpellier

Seed workshop at the home of Chantal Guiraud

Chantal will explain everything we need to know about how to grow plants successfully from seed. Please bring a dish for sharing at lunchtime.

This will also be a good opportunity to browse in the library, to look at the new books we have added this year and any return any borrowed books you may have at home....

Thursday/Friday 13/14 February in Cesseras (34)

Photography Course led by Béatrice Pichon-Clarisse

The course has been very popular and since we decided to limit the group size to 15, is now full. However it might be possible to run the course again at a future date, so if this would be of interest to you please let me know.

Saturday 16 February at 14.30 in Clapiers (34)

Talk by Jean-Jacques Derboux at the médiathèque Albert Camus

Hortus has arranged this talk by Jean-Jacques Derboux, paysagiste, on the subject of his recently published book « *Créer un jardin sans arrosage : De style méditerranéen* », photographs by Béatrice Pichon-Clarisse. The talk will be in French.

Friday – Sunday March 1/2/3 in Albufeira, Portugal

A programme of talks and visits organised by the MGS in the Algarve

A number of us have already booked for this interesting event!

Programme and booking form attached.

Thursday 21 March at 12.30 in Vers (30)

Talk on Australian Gardens by Chantal Guiraud and Christine Savage

This will be held at the Jardin de la Gare restaurant in Vers. We will have lunch followed by the talk.

Wednesday/Thursday 10/11 April in Le Rayol-Canadel and La Londe des Maures(83)

Visit to the Domaine du Rayol and coastal gardens in the Var

Domaine du Rayol, www.domainedurayol.org, designed by Gilles Clément, has a stunning location on the coast, to the west of St Tropez. We were made very welcome when we had our MGS stand there in October and Stan Alaguillaume, head gardener, has offered to take us on a tour and talk to us about the philosophy and maintenance regimes at this wonderful site. We will meet for lunch on the Wednesday, tour the gardens, then stay overnight in Le Rayol-Canadel. On Thursday morning, Jean-Marie Rey will take us to his favourite garden, owned by Mme Ferrari, which he describes as “petit mais sublime”. He has then invited us to have lunch with him at La Londe and to visit the nursery in the afternoon.

The recommended hotel is Les Terrasses du Bailli <http://www.lebaillidesuffren.com/hotel-terrasses-var/> where rates are from 110 -120€ for a twin room. If you wish to stay here, please state that you are booking as part of the MGS group. Early booking is recommended to ensure availability of rooms.

Saturday/Sunday 20/21 April

MGS stand at Plantes Rares at Serignan-du-Comtat

The theme this year is «Variations méditerranéennes» and the organisers have invited us to take part, both with our MGS stand and by participating in the conference on mediterranean gardening. I already have a number of volunteers for the conference but more helpers to man the stand would be welcome. This is a great opportunity for us to share our passion for gardening with dry climate plants with others, as this plant fair is one of the best in southern France and always very well attended.

Mid May

Visit to gardens in the Pyrénées and wine tasting with visitors from the UK branch

Early June

Visit to Eric Borja's garden in Valence, garden villages of the Drôme and the Harmas de Jean-Henri Fabre

September

A day with designer Dominique Lafourcade, including a visit to her own garden, Les Confines, near St Remy

Thursday/Friday 3/4 October

Languedoc 10th Anniversary garden party and AGM in Caunes-Minervois and Cessero

November 7 -10 Athens, Greece

The General Assembly and election of the Administrative Committee for the next three years will be held in Athens on Sunday 10th November. The Greek branch is putting together a programme of lectures and garden visits commencing on Thursday 7th.

Please contact me by email at cs.savage@btopenworld.com if you are interested in attending any of the above events.

Other News

Domaine d'Orvès, La Valette-du-Var

Françoise Darlington has sent this information about the creation of a new society:

« Nous avons le plaisir de vous annoncer la création de l'association Les Amis d'Orvès, qui a pour objectif de rassembler, en hommage au peintre Pierre Deval et à son épouse Henriette, les amis qui les ont soutenus dans la défense du domaine d'Orvès contre les aléas de l'Histoire et d'accueillir de nouveaux membres dans le but de maintenir vivante la mémoire de l'artiste ainsi que de conserver, faire vivre et développer le domaine en tant que réserve botanique et zone naturelle à protéger. Ce domaine possède désormais le label " Jardin remarquable " décerné par le ministère de la culture et de la communication. »

For an application form write to Françoise at fdarlington.deval@gmail.com

Happy gardening in 2013

Christine

The information below will be repeated at the end of each Newsletter. New items will appear in Bold.



The Mediterranean Garden Society

Resources and Information available to
members

<p><u>Languedoc Library</u> 250 books on gardening and plants in English and in French</p>	<p>To obtain the latest catalogue or to borrow a book, email Chantal Guiraud at chantal.guiraud@modulonet.fr. You can collect books from Montpellier, or Chantal will bring them to the next meeting.</p>
<p><u>Directory of Members</u> Town of residence and email addresses of MGS members in France and Belgium</p>	<p>Contact Christine Savage, cs.savage@btopenworld.com to be included and to obtain a copy.</p>
<p><u>Lists</u> Compiled by branch members, further contributions welcome. Jardins en Languedoc Jardins en Provence Recommended Nurseries, Garden Products and Designers Aromatic Plants for the Midi Climbing Plants for the Midi Roses for the Midi Plants for Difficult Situations Seeds for Flowering Meadows Seeds of Hardy plants Booklist for Southern Gardeners</p>	<p>Copies can be obtained either from me, or from the list editors: Chantal Guiraud chantal.guiraud@modulonet.fr. Chantal Guiraud http://mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com David Bracey bracey@wanadoo.fr David Bracey David Bracey Alec Cobb alec.cobb@wanadoo.fr Chantal Guiraud Chantal Guiraud Jocelyn van Riemsdijk jocelyn.vanriemsdijk@nordnet.fr</p>
<p><u>Leaflets</u> Making a Dry Garden Mulches and Compost The Waterwise Garden</p>	<p>These are available in English and French and can be distributed to friends or at places where gardeners gather. Contact cs.savage@btopenworld.com for copies.</p>
<p><u>The MGS Website</u> A vast store of interesting information, including our Languedoc branch page with articles and photographs provided by branch members</p>	<p>In English: http://www.mediterraneangardensociety.org/ In French: http://www.societedesjardinsmediterraneens.org/index.html</p>
<p><u>The MGS France Website</u> A website with information for gardeners in France including a members' section with details of gardens to visit</p>	<p>In English and French www.mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com Contact me for the MGS id and password for the Members' section</p>
<p><u>The MGS Seed List</u> A seed exchange for MGS members run by Chantal Guiraud</p>	<p>For a full list and how to order, see the MGS website: http://www.mediterraneangardensociety.org/seedlist.html http://www.societedesjardinsmediterraneens.org/seedlist.html</p>
<p><u>The MGS Forum</u> An internet forum for anyone interested in mediterranean plants and gardening</p>	<p>Moderated by Alisdair Aird, Oron Peri and Fleur Pavlidis this can be accessed at www.mgsforum.org</p>
<p><u>TMG archive service</u> Articles from past issues of The Mediterranean Garden journal</p>	<p>To receive the text of past articles by email contact the editor, Caroline Harbouri, at petrie.harbouri@on.gr. Find articles by going on the website, go to MGS Journal, then click on 'General Index' for an A-Z by topic.</p>
<p><u>Information about the administration of the MGS</u> Minutes of General Assemblies and Administrative Committee meetings Financial Statements</p>	<p>Minutes of the October 2012 General Assembly, Administrative Committee meetings and Financial Statements are available. Copies can be sent by email. Contact cs.savage@btopenworld.com</p>