



Mediterranean Gardening France

www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org

November 2016

Dear members and friends

Programme of activities in France

Tuesday 15th November, 11.00, Fréjus, Var

A visit to the garden and winery at Clos des Roses



Clos des Roses has a lovely flower meadow and some pretty gardens with sculptures. We will hear how the current owner turned around the fortunes of the vineyard and about how the meadow is cultivated then have the opportunity to taste some wines. Cost of the visit and wine-tasting 8€. Lunch will be in the *Clos des Roses* restaurant.

<https://www.closdesroses.com/fr/accueil-vignoble-clos-des-roses>

There is a limit of 25 attendees for this visit, so contact June as soon as possible if you would like a place: jngrindley@btinternet.com.

Wednesday/Thursday 1/2 March, Assignan and Cesseras, Hérault

Talks on the plants and gardens of Iran and of Arizona and a walk with Gill Pound

If the weather is good, on Wednesday afternoon Gill will lead us on a walk of about 6km from Assignan, through both limestone and schist landscape, so with contrasting vegetation. On Thursday, we will have two talks in Cesseras, one in English, one in French.

Liz Thompson's talk is entitled: **Origins of Paradise**

An account of a journey through Iran with reference to its gardens - ancient and modern, plants and trees, and their influence on Iranian culture, decoration and the love of nature and the outdoors.

After lunch, Gill will show us photos of desert wild flowers and landscapes observed during her recent trip to Arizona and Utah, and talk about how some of these may be interesting for Mediterranean gardeners.



Photo: *Castilleja* sp. - The Desert Paintbrush

To book a place contact Christine Savage: cs.savage@btopenworld.com

22 April – 1 May, A trip to Corsica, from Ajaccio to Bastia

Botany, gardens and sightseeing



This trip has been researched and organised by Françoise Legrand and will be led by an experienced botanical guide (French-speaking) from Cynéa Découverte <http://www.cyrnea-decouverte.com/>. The itinerary will include botanical walks, both inland and coastal, to discover flowers and shrubs in the wild, visits to one or two gardens, including the Parc de Saleccia, a trip to the Lavazza islands, plus opportunities for sightseeing in Ajaccio, Sartène, Bonifacio and Bastia. The trip will start in Ajaccio and end in Bastia. Travel to Corsica (by ferry or plane) to be organised individually by participants, but Cynéa Découverte will organise transport to/from airports and ferry terminals. The trip will be limited to 15 participants.

Photo : *Digitalis purpurea* (Cynéa Découverte)

For more information and to express an interest, contact Françoise Legrand: fglnew84@yahoo.fr.

Wednesday evening, Thursday and Friday, 10 - 12 May, Aix-en-Provence

Art et Jardins - a Mediterranean Gardening International event

Two days of garden visits, lectures and walks, with a view to exploring the connections between art and Mediterranean gardens. The welcome reception, lectures and final dinner will take place at the Hotel Aquabella. Our lecturers will be garden designer Laura de Beden and the author, Louisa Jones.

For a full programme and a booking form contact Christine Savage: cs.savage@btopenworld.com

Saturday 13 May, 10.00, Aix-en-Provence

Mediterranean Gardening France AGM 2017

This will take place in the Hotel Aquabella, close to the historic centre of Aix-en-Provence.

International activities

For a full list of international events, go to the MGF website:

<http://www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org/baEvtInt.htm>

Other dates for your Diary

Thursday 8 November, l'Ecole d'Architecture de Montpellier, 18.30, entrance free

Two lectures on a common theme, by Olivier Filippi and Thomas Doxiadis

Le rythme du paysage : architecture et dynamique des paysages méditerranéens, une nouvelle inspiration pour les jardins.



Olivier Filippi présentera un panorama des paysages emblématiques du pourtour de la Méditerranée, des montagnes de Crète aux vallées de l'Atlas en passant par la Sicile, la Corse, les montagnes de Majorque ou la côte de l'Algarve. Au travers d'une double lecture du paysage, Olivier Filippi montrera comment les paysages dynamiques des garrigues peuvent servir d'inspiration à la fois esthétique et fonctionnelle pour la création de jardins beaux, économes en eau et peu exigeants en entretien. La présentation sera illustrée de réalisations récentes de jardins autour de la Méditerranée, créés par différents paysagistes contemporains au Portugal, en Espagne, en France et en Grèce.

Thomas Doxiadis, paysagiste et architecte réputé pour son travail original dans les îles des Cyclades, expliquera comment il s'inspire de l'histoire et de la structure des paysages de la phrygana, la variante locale de la garrigue, pour créer des jardins qui se fondent dans le paysage environnant au point que la frontière entre le jardin et la nature devient parfois imperceptible. Les réalisations exceptionnelles de Thomas Doxiadis, en particulier sur l'île d'Antiparos, sont devenues mondialement célèbres et interpellent les jardiniers comme les architectes tout autour de la Méditerranée.

Plant fairs and open gardens

30 October	Marché des plantations et des terroirs	St-Gély-du-Fesc, Hérault
26/27 November	Les Journées de l'Arbre de la Plante et du Fruit	St Jean du Gard

Hortus Programme

5 November	Les agrumes de Guy Roques	Teyran, Hérault
3 or 10 December	Visit to Pépinières Riera	Venelles, Bouches-du-Rhône

All MGF members are welcome to join Hortus activities. For more information about Hortus, go to the website <http://hortus.acl.free.fr>. To book a place for any of the events in the Hortus programme, contact Chantal Maurice at chantal.dania@wanadoo.fr.

Sète Côté Jardin

To see the programme of events organised by Sète Côté Jardin, go to its website: <http://setecotejardin.fr/sci/>

News and information

Mediterranean Gardening France website

The [WHAT'S NEW?](#) page has a summary of material added recently. In October:

Jenny McNaught has written an account of the September visit to Lysiane Offerhaus's garden, L'Argelière and to Villa Mariela, the garden of Martin and Daniela Smith. Read about it here: [La Gaude](#)

Photo: Le Jardin de L'Argelière



In early September, we also spent two days in the Corbières and Minervois. Catriona Mclean has written this report: [Minervois](#), with photos by Hilary Ivey, and Ian Davis has added a section on the wildlife we observed.

Photo: The entrance to the Jardin Botanique de Durban-Corbières

In the Recommended Plants section there is a new [plant list](#) : 'Grasses', and to accompany it, an [article](#) by Gill Pound.

Photo: *Calamagrostis brachytricha*



Drought tolerant roses

David Bracey writes:

"The summer of 2016 was long, hot and particularly dry, so a good opportunity to ask members to list those roses which in their experience survived with no, or extremely minimal, watering. We were lucky to receive a list from rose expert Pat Mills, who gardens in Catalonia, where conditions are even more severe than those we experience in southern France. Pat doesn't water his established plants in summer and his recommendations are included in the list below."

Climbers and ramblers

Rosa banksiae 'Lutea', small double flowers in hanging sprays, early, thornless.

Rosa brunonii 'La Mortola', large flowered single white vigorous climber. Fragrant.

Rosa moschata, single white flowers, yellow centres, long time in cultivation.

Rosa 'Alister Stella Gray', noisette climber, very fragrant, double yellow flowers with eggy centres. Repeat flowering.

Rosa 'Bantry Bay', modern repeat flowering rose, double pink, fragrant.

Rosa 'Betty Sherriff', small single white blooms flushed pale pink, scented, strong rambler, showy fruits.

Rosa 'Cardinal de Richelieu', gallica, thorny, vigorous, double burgundy flowers with purple fruits, grows in shade and under pine trees.

Rosa 'City of York', semi double, creamy yellow, fragrant, rambling.

Rosa 'Etoile de Hollande', vigorous, deep crimson, repeat-flowering, very fragrant.

Rosa 'Madame Alfred Carrière', vigorous healthy climber, ivory-white, sweetly scented.

Rosa 'New Dawn', vigorous, fragrant double pale pink eight-cm flowers.

Rosa 'The Pilgrim', soft yellow, strong fragrance, ideal for shade, 1991.



Rosa banksiae 'Lutea'



Rosa brunonii 'La Mortola'



Rosa 'Etoile de Hollande'

Shrub roses

Rosa chinensis f. *mutabilis*, tea rose, buff yellow turning to pink and crimson.

Rosa 'Buff Beauty', tall shrub rose, double apricot/yellow flowers, scented, repeat flowers.

Rosa 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh', soft lilac-pink blooms, large flowers, long-flowering, fragrant.

Rosa 'Cornelia' bicolour, coppery apricot to pink, double, strongly scented, hybrid musk.

Rosa 'Gruss an Aachen', repeat flowering, double polyantha, light-pink, 1929.

Rosa 'Little White Pet', superb large clusters of white pom-poms, little scent, 1879.

Rosa 'Moonlight', hybrid musk, white-cream, little scent, 1913.

Rosa 'Old Blush China', double pink China rose, fragrant, 1752.

Rosa 'Penelope', double, large 8 cm cream flowers, fragrant.

Rosa 'Zephirine Drouhin', thornless, bourbon rose, deep pink 8 cm flowers, fragrant, prone to mildew.



Rosa 'Gruss an Aachen'



Rosa 'Little White Pet'



Rosa 'Penelope'

The rose list on our website has been updated to include these recommendations, all of which have been identified in the list as 'Drought tolerant'. See the list here: [Rose list](#).

Fragrant and scented plants

David Bracey is now working on a list of scented plants (excluding roses) which do well in our part of the world. Please send your suggestions to David at bracey@wanadoo.fr.

Late cancellations

There have been a number of instances recently when members have let us know at the very last minute that they are unable to attend an event. We understand that this may be unavoidable, but if you cancel less than three days before an event and this results in costs to MGF, for example when lunches have been ordered, we will ask you to cover these expenses.

With best wishes
Christine