



MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN SOCIETY

LANGUEDOC BRANCH

Mas d'Arfuyen, Quartier Piouton, 84340 Malaucène

00 33 490 65 27 51

cs.savage@btopenworld.com

www.mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com

November 2013 Newsletter No 8

Dear Languedoc members and friends,

Autumn 2013 activities

As the 62 people who attended our tenth anniversary celebrations will know, our usual luck with the weather deserted us for the two days of 3 and 4 October, however the rain certainly didn't dampen our spirits. Gill's garden was looking gorgeous, the home prepared dishes from the MGS Languedoc book were superb and the wine flowed. Toasts were made to Jocelyn, without whom the branch wouldn't exist, and to the next ten years of garden activities and friendship.

Béatrice Pichon-Clarisse, who was our tutor for the photography workshop in February, took some pictures which you can see here:



We also spent a wonderful day with designer Dominique Lafourcade in September. Guy Cheeseman has produced a report in words and pictures which you'll find on our new website at <http://www.mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com/baRpt2013n07.htm>, and Hubert Niviere has put together an album of excellent photographs: [mgs201309_stremy](#)

MGS Languedoc AGM

This was a productive and enjoyable meeting, with the emphasis being, as always, on the creation of our programme of activities for the following year. Ian Davis was the star of the show, presenting the new website to us with humour and flair. Minutes of the meeting are attached.

Programme of activities for 2014

Thursday 9 January, 11.00am Restaurant Le Tracteur, Argilliers (30)

A talk on mediterranean geophytes, by John Fielding, co-author of *Flowers of Crete*

John is an expert on mediterranean geophytes (bulbs, corms, rhizomes) and will pick out a selection suitable for the climate here in France. He is a member of the RHS Photographic Committee and will illustrate his talk (in English) with many photographs of mediterranean bulbs growing in the wild. After the talk we will have lunch at the restaurant, <http://www.astracteur.fr>.

Thursday 20 February, 10.15am Pépinière Filippi, Mèze (34)

Atelier multiplication et visite de jardin

The workshop, led by Olivier Filippi, will take place inside the greenhouses, so is limited to 15 participants.

Early March

Workshop on soil by David Bracey

Early April

A talk by paysagiste, Jean-Sylvain Bussac

A talk in French about using plants to create visual effects in the garden

Late April/early May - Saint-Andre-de-Majencoules (30)

A visit to the Jardin des Sambucs.

Wednesday/Thursday 21/22 May - Sillans-la-Cascade (83)**Two days in the Var with Benoit and Isabelle Beauvallet**

This trip will start with a visit to their nursery and demonstration garden, L'Armalette, followed by a visit to a private garden selected by Benoit. On Thursday, Benoit will lead a group of those happy with hill walking for an excursion to look for wildflowers in the mountains around Moustiers-Sainte-Marie.

Thursday 5 June - Ménerbes (84)

A visit to a member's garden in Ménerbes. This visit will be limited to 25 participants.

September

Visits to gardens near Montpellier.

October

Pre-AGM trip to gardens in Languedoc and Provence

MGS AGM in Menton (06)

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

Other dates for your Diary**Plant fairs**

16 November	Autumn sale – La Petite Pépinière	Caunes-Minervois (11)
23/24 November	De l'arbre de la plante et du fruit	St-Jean-du-Gard (30)

Hortus Programme

9 novembre	Conférence sur les piscines biologiques	Clapiers (34)
7 décembre	Conférence - Histoire de nos légumes	Devezou (34)
26 avril 2014	Bourse aux plantes	Devezou (34)
23/24 mai 2014	Voyage annuelle	Lyon et la Drôme

For information on Hortus activities contact Chantal Maurice at chantal.dania@wanadoo.fr

With best wishes

Christine

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



The Mediterranean Garden Society

Resources and Information available to
members

<p><u>Languedoc Library</u> 288 books on gardening and plants in English and in French</p>	<p>Catalogue: www.mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com 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> Nurseries, Designers and Garden Products Plants for Late Summer Colour Aromatic Plants Climbing Plants Roses Plants for Difficult Situations Seeds for Flowering Meadows Seeds of Hardy plants</p>	<p>Compiled by branch members, further contributions welcome. www.mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com www.mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com David Bracey bracey@wanadoo.fr David Bracey David Bracey Alec Cobb alec.cobb@wanadoo.fr Chantal Guiraud chantal.guiraud@modulonet.fr. Chantal Guiraud</p>
<p><u>Leaflets</u> Making a Dry Garden Mulches and Compost The Waterwise Garden Drought Tolerant Shrubs</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> Information about the society, including our Languedoc branch page.</p>	<p>In English: www.mediterraneangardensociety.org/ In French: www.societedesjardinsmediterraneens.org/index.html</p>
<p><u>The MGS France Website</u> Information for gardeners in France</p>	<p>In English and French www.mediterraneangardensocietyfrance.com</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 websites: www.mediterraneangardensociety.org/seedlist.html www.societedesjardinsmediterraneens.org/seedlist.html</p>
<p><u>The MGS Plant Forum</u> An internet forum for anyone interested in mediterranean plants and gardening</p>	<p>www.mgsforum.org</p>
<p><u>The MGS Members' Forum</u> An internet Forum for ideas, comments and questions on any topic related to the MGS</p>	<p>www.mgsmembersforum.org</p>
<p><u>Journal archive service</u> Articles from past issues of our journal <i>The Mediterranean Garden</i></p>	<p>To receive the text of past articles by email contact the editor at petrie.harbouri@on.gr. To find articles, go on the website, go to MGS Journal, then 'General Index' for an A-Z by topic.</p>
<p><u>Information about the administration of the MGS</u> Minutes of meetings and Financial Statements</p>	<p>Minutes of the October 2012 General Assembly, Financial Statements and Administrative Committee meetings are available on the MGS Members' Forum www.mgsmembersforum.org</p>