



Mediterranean Gardening France

Mediterranean Garden Society



www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org
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April 2014

Dear MGF and MGS members and friends

Programme of activities in France

Thursday 10 April, 11.00am, Les Jardins de Payan, Tarascon (13)

A talk by paysagiste, Jean-Sylvain Bussac, followed by a visit to the gardens

In the morning, Jean-Sylvain Bussac, garden designer and paysagiste, based in Aix-en-Provence, will talk to us in French about using combinations of colour and shape to create different visual effects in the garden.

At lunchtime, Sophie de Brignac, owner of the Mas de Payan, has invited us to eat our picnics in the garden, followed by a walk around the 13 hectares of park and gardens. Work on the gardens started in 1981 with the planting of hedges, trees and shrubs. Over the following thirty years the garden was developed and now has an arboretum, a potager and a collection of unusual plants, many raised from seeds and cuttings collected by the owners. It has an alkaline clay soil, pH8.

<http://www.lesjardinsdepayan.com/> . Cost: 10€ per person.

Thursday 24 April, 10.30am Le Jardin des Sambucs, Saint-Andre-de-Majencoules (30)

This day in the garden of Agnès and Nicholas Brückin will include a garden tour, a talk on water recuperation systems and a talk on encouraging wildlife in the garden. Cost will be 25€ per person, including lunch. Good walking shoes essential. <http://www.jardinsambucs.com> .

***Friday 25 April, 10.00am, Nice (06)**

Guided visit to the Botanic garden of Nice.

***Friday 2 May, 10.30am, Tourtour (83)**

Visit to the new garden of the hotel Domaine de la Baume near Tourtour, www.domaine-delabaume.com , picnic lunch at the home of Pamela and Angus Mackintosh followed by visit to the Chateau of Entrecasteaux.

Tuesday/Wednesday 20/21 May - Sillans-la-Cascade (83)

Two days in the Var including, we hope, the first AGM of Mediterranean Gardening France

This trip will start at 11.00am on Tuesday with a visit to L'Armalette, the nursery and demonstration garden of Benoit and Isabelle Beauvallet, <http://www.pepiniere-armalette.fr> followed by a visit to a private garden.

We are investigating possible venues for an early evening AGM – more news soon.

On Wednesday, 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.

***Monday 2 June, 10.00am, Placassier, near Grasse (06)**

Visit to Domaine de Manon where roses are grown for the perfume industry.

Thursday 5 June, Ménerbes (84)

A visit to a member's garden in Ménerbes. Please bring a picnic lunch.

The visit is limited to 25 participants and is now fully booked.

***Saturday 14 June, 10.30am, Pierrefeu- du-Var (83)**

A visit to two gardens, Jardin de la Gravière which has ponds, an arid zone with cacti, a shady zone with tree ferns, lots of unusual trees and lovely roses plus sculptures and Frédéric Vallée's small garden with a pond area and exquisite bonsai of olive trees.

***Friday 4 July, Chateauneuf de Grasse (06)**

A visit to the garden of Daniel and Lillan Wyler. Its designer, Jean Mus, will accompany us on a garden tour.

***Friday 12 September, Gattières(06)**

A visit to the Jardins des Fleurs et Poterie.

Monday 13 – Thursday 16 October

Pre-Menton trip to gardens in Languedoc and Provence

Places will be limited to 50 people and priority will be given to members coming from outside Europe.

Thursday 16 – Tuesday 21 October

The MGS General Assembly and accompanying programme, Menton, Alpes-Maritimes

The core events of the General Assembly programme start with a reception in the evening of Thursday 16 October and finish with dinner on the evening of Sunday 19 October. On the Friday and Saturday there will be visits to four classic gardens in the area – the Hanbury Gardens at La Mortola, the gardens of Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild, La Serre de la Madone and the Jardin Exotique in Monaco. After the General Assembly on Sunday 19 October, there will be talks by garden writer Louisa Jones and the Italian landscape architect and garden designer Laura de Beden.

At the end of the main programme, there will be two optional extra days with visits to nearby gardens, including Boccanegra, magnificently situated on a steep slope which descends to the sea and Clos du Peyronnet, the garden of three generations of the Waterfield family.

Registration for all activities will open on the MGS website on 1 May.

*Outings organised by MGF Provence/Côte d'Azur. For more information, contact Carol and June at mgf.provencecotedazur@gmail.com.

To book a place for all other events in France please contact me at cs.savage@btopenworld.com

Events in other countries

To see a list of events where French members are welcome, including visits to gardens in Crete, Italy, Spain and the UK, go to International Forthcoming Events on the MGF website:

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

Other dates for your Diary

Plant fairs

30 March	Primavera	Montpellier (34)
5/6 April	Portes Ouvertes la Soldanelle	Rougiers (83)
12/13 April	Plantes rares et jardin naturel	Sérignan-du-Comtat (84)
12/13 April	Un Printemps sous les arbres	Saint-Brès (34)
26/27 April	Portes ouvertes, Bulb'Argence	Fourques (30)
26/27 April	Journées des plantes et jardins	Cours Julien, Marseille(13)
1 May	La main verte	Le Vigan (34)
3/4 May	Fête des Plantes	Abbaye de Fontfroide (11)
17 May	Jardins en fête	Béziers (34)
23 – 25 May	Journées des Plantes d'Albertas	Bouc-Bel-Air(13)
29 May – 1 June	Alterarosa	Avignon (84)
31 May, 1 June	Portes ouvertes, La Petite Pépinière	Caunes-Minervois (11)
31 May, 1 June	Rendez-vous aux jardins	Throughout France

Hortus Programme

26 avril	Bourse aux plantes	Devezou (34)
9/10 mai	Jardin Zen Erik Borja et Pépinière Rivière	La Drôme
21 juin	Film : le jardin des plantes du Pr Rossi	Clapiers (34)

For information on Hortus activities contact Chantal Maurice at chantal.dania@wanadoo.fr or go to the website <http://hortus.acl.free.fr>

News and information

New on the Mediterranean Gardening France website

To coincide with the launch of our new association, you will find lots of new information on the website. Go to the 'What's New?' page to see a summary:

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

Highlights include:

'Gardens to Visit'- A directory of 38 gardens in Languedoc-Roussillon, Provence and the Côte d'Azur which are open to the public, though sometimes only by appointment. Most, but not all, include areas of 'dry garden' planting.

Please contact us with suggestions for gardens to add to this list.



A new **'Gardening'** section which contains notes from talks and workshops given by local experts and information from members about their hands-on experiences of making gardens.

The first article, written by Annie Nivière, is about propagation from cuttings.

The latest report from the **'Garden in Languedoc' (February 2014)** series shows how very different Olivier and Clara's garden was this year following the mild winter, as compared with our previous February visit in 2012.



The **'About Us'** page introduces our new association and has links to international partner organisations.

There is also a link to a page where you can see the aims of the new association, meet **the MGF team** and find their contact details. You'll see there is now a website team and Marjorie, David and I would be very pleased to receive your contributions and ideas for new website content.

South African bulbs and seeds

Edith Werner writes:

"I have just come back from a stay at the Cape and visited Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden once more. Many plants which are grown at the Cape are not often seen in Europe though there are similarities climate wise, hardly any rain during summer and wet winters, though of course, no frost. Many bulbs are winter growing and summer dormant. Water wise gardening has become the new mantra everywhere at the Cape and books on that approach abound.

Should anybody be interested in experimenting with South African indigenous bulbs and seeds I recommend a specialised nursery which has an overseas mail order service and is reliable:

The SA Bulb Company

Leigh and Johann Nieuwoudt

www.simplyindigenous.co.za"

With best wishes
Christine