



Mediterranean Gardening France

www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org

June/July 2017

Dear members and friends

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES IN FRANCE

Wednesday 20 September, Souvinargues, Gard Visit to Pépinières Quissac and a cuttings workshop



Miriam and Fabien Quissac have invited us to visit their nursery and trial gardens situated between Sommières and Nîmes. All the plants are raised on ecological principles, see their website: <http://www.jardin-ecologique.fr/>. We will have a nursery tour in the morning, eat our picnic lunches, then have a workshop on how to take cuttings. I will send Miriam's plant list to people who book so that they can write to her in advance to tell her which plants they are interested in and Miriam will adapt the lesson accordingly.

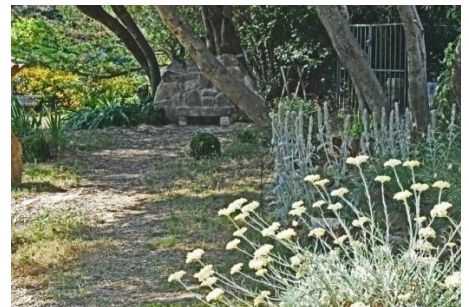
Maximum number of participants: 30

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

Wednesday 18 October, Tourbes, Hérault Planning meeting and garden visit

Liliane and Roland Leclercq have volunteered to host this year's planning meeting, where we'll be discussing next year's programme of activities. Please come with ideas for outings, workshops, talks, events etc and do some research into what time of the year is the best for your proposals.

Liliane and Roland have started a website garden diary '*Débuter un jardin à Tourbes*' which tells the story of their garden so far: <http://www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org/gdDebutTourbes.htm>
To book a place, contact Roland Leclercq : rolandlec@wanadoo.fr



INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

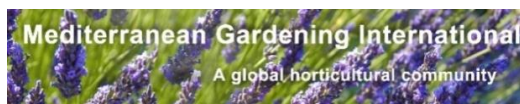
26 -30 September (dates to be confirmed) Veneto, ITALY Villa Gardens of the Veneto

A four-day tour of Veneto including the Brenta riviera, Padova, with the oldest botanical garden in Italy and Verona where other important villas await.

To request further information as it becomes available send an email to angela.durnford@mgsitaly.org

8 - 15 November 2017, Peloponnese, GREECE Autumn bulbs in the southern Peloponnese

This trip, led by John Fielding, will go to areas rich in narcissus, anemones, snowdrops, cyclamen, colchicum, sternbergia and other special plants. This is primarily a wild plant trip but includes visits to the garden of Patrick Leigh-Fermor, the beautiful town of Nafplio, the Byzantine site of Mystras, and Ancient Corinth. For a detailed programme email Heather Martin: hma@clara.net.



GARDENS AND PLANTS of the COSTA BLANCA, SPAIN Provisional dates 15 - 22 APRIL 2018

Plans are under way for an event in the province of Alicante which will include visits to traditional and newer gardens and a wild flower walk. This event is being organised by our partner organisation Mediterranean Plants and Gardens.

All details are still to be confirmed but you can register an interest now with the organiser, Heather Martin: hma@clara.net

MGi CONFERENCE SPRING 2019 - PORTUGAL

Portugal will once again host the MGi International Spring Conference in 2019 on the theme of 'Mediterranean Landscapes Brought into the Garden'. Current plans are for this to be held during mid March to mid April 2019.

MGi EVENT OCTOBER 2020 - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

In 2020, our colleagues in *Mediterranean Gardening Margaret River* will be inviting us to Perth, capital of Western Australia. We will visit gardens in Perth and then head south to the wine-growing region of Margaret River. Julie Kinney, head of MGMR, has asked me to give her an idea of the number of people who might be interested in this trip, so please contact me if you're tempted, cs.savage@btopenworld.com

For a full list of international events, go to the MGF website: <http://www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org/baEvtInt.htm>

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Plant fairs and open gardens

8 July	Le Jardin Champêtre - Summer Open Day	Caunes-Minervois (11)
2/3/4 Sept	Murabilia	Lucca, Italy
10 Sept	Journée des plantes	Uzès (30)
16/17 Sept	Journées du patrimoine	throughout France
24 Sept	Fête d'automne au jardin	Sillans la Cascade (83)

Hortus Programme

17 June	Sortie botanique, le Plateau du Guilhaumard	Aveyron
24 June	Une conférence	Clapiers (34)

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/>

**An Exhibition - 'Jardins' at the Galeries Nationales du Grand Palais, Paris
Until 24 July 2017**

This multidisciplinary assembly of painting, sculptures, photographs, drawings and installations by major artists such as Dürer, David, Monet, Cézanne, Picasso, Matisse and Othoniel offers a panorama of garden art in France and in Europe from the Renaissance to the present day. The layout of the exhibition is designed to give the visitor the notion of a promenade.

Radicepura Garden Festival, Sicily Until October 21 2017

This new Mediterranean Garden Festival is being held in the botanical gardens of the Fondazione Radicepura at Giarre in Sicily. Fourteen gardens have been specially created using plants grown by Piante Faro, a nursery specialising in tropical, succulent, aromatic, citrus and Mediterranean plants and trees. Other gardens will be by internationally-famous designers, including one by James Basson. For more information see the website: <https://www.radicepurafestival.com/>.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Mediterranean Gardening France website

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

In May and June:



A new [plant list](#), Flowering Trees and Conifers, compiled by David Bracey from recommendations supplied by a number of members. Thanks to all who contributed.

Photo: *Gleditsia triacanthos f. inermis* 'Sunburst'

Gardens to Visit

Articles by Marilyn Kuchel, a member of our partner association MGS South Australia, on two gardens, one in France and one just across the border into Italy, the [Jardin des plantes](#) in Montpellier and the [Giardini Botanici Hanbury](#), near Ventimiglia

Photo: The Palazzo Orengo, Giardini Botanici Hanbury



An article by David Bracey on an interesting vegetable, popular in southern Italy, the [Cima di rapa](#), or *brocoli-rave*.

A report by Roland Leclercq, with photos by Roland and by Christian Mistre, on a day spent at [La Soldanelle](#), learning about and gathering edible wild salad leaves.

Photo: The results, enjoyed at lunch!



Peter Dinning's report on our visit to [Jacqueline and David Potter's garden](#) in the Var, and an invitation to collect seeds.

Photo: *Rosa* 'Ispahan'

The MGi event in Aix

Over 50 people from seven countries attended this year's MGi event, '*Art et Jardins*', based in Aix-en-Provence. Reports on the garden visits and walks, plus presentations of images and text from the two lectures, will soon be on the MGi website.

MGi Forum

Ian Davis writes:

“The members of Cape Horticultural Society have been added to the forum membership. This means that all members of all MGi associations (a grand total of 842) now have access.”

We were all quite surprised (but pleased!) to learn that there are so many of us in our international community.

Barrocal Botanic Garden, Algarve Portugal



Mediterranean Gardening Association Portugal has taken its first steps towards establishing a botanic garden on a 1,000 sq m site outside Silves. The land forms part of an established organic farm, Quinta da Figueirinha. The layout was marked out in January, then in March the paths were laid and first plantings put in, using only native plants from this area of the Algarve. Clara and Olivier Filippi have already visited and offered advice and other visitors are welcome, by appointment.

The garden was officially opened on 21 May (World Biodiversity Day) when the natural flora was at its best. The photo shows a pink carpet of *Centaureum erythraea* punctuated by *Cachrys sicula*, *Prangos trifida* and *Helichrysum stoechas*. For more information or to arrange a visit contact Rosie Peddle, rosie@thebtf.net.

A new website editor

At our recent AGM Roland Leclercq kindly volunteered to take over the role of MGF newsletter editor, so from now on please send contributions to Roland: rolandlec@wanadoo.fr. We welcome contributions about any news and activities which may be of interest to members. Longer articles about plants and gardens are also welcome but will be published on the website.

With best wishes

Christine