



## Newsletter No 16

## Winter 2019

[www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org)

Member of [www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org)

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MedGardenersPortugal>

**Welcome to members and friends in Portugal with an interest in Mediterranean Gardening.** If you know of any others who may be interested in Mediterranean gardening please pass this along to them and remember all are welcome to attend our events.

**Bem-vindos, membros e amigos em Portugal com interesse no Jardinagem Mediterrânica.** Se souber de alguém que esteja interessado em jardinagem mediterrânica agradecemos que passe a palavra, ou o favor de dar um destes boletins informativos, e não esquecer que todos estão convidados a participar nos eventos por nós organizados.

2019	EVENTS	Info
<b>Sunday 24 February</b> 10.30 – 16.00	<b>Planting Day at the Barrocal Botanic Garden</b> Bring a spade, crow bar and strong shoes !	Garden Open 10.30 – 16.00 Come along any time ! <a href="mailto:rosie@thebtf.net">rosie@thebtf.net</a>
<b>Thursday February 28</b> 10.00 Albufeira Library	<b>John Lavranos MGAP Memorial Lecture</b> To recognise the wonderful contribution to botany and horticulture made by John. <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Jacob_Lavranos">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Jacob_Lavranos</a>	<b>“Discovering John Lavranos: Our travels in Namibia and Madagascar”</b> by Tim Harvey More Info <a href="mailto:mgapevents@gmail.com">mgapevents@gmail.com</a>
<b>Saturday 16 March</b> 11am-5pm All Welcome Donations on the door for the Barrocal Botanic Garden	<b>MGAP Spring Mediterranean Garden Fair</b> FISSUL building, Silves Town Centre Specialist Plant Nurseries, FREE talks and MGAP Book Shop, Plant Crèche, Refreshments etc.	<b>More info and offers of help contact</b> <a href="mailto:mgapfairs@gmail.com">mgapfairs@gmail.com</a>  <b>NEW VENUE !</b> <b>Extensive free parking</b> <b>Stalls all under cover</b>
<b>March</b> (date to be confirmed)	<b>Garden Visit</b> Kelvin and Lynn Carpenter’s garden, nr. Estoi	More info from Tessa Hearn <a href="mailto:mgapevents@gmail.com">mgapevents@gmail.com</a>
<b>5 - 8 April 2019</b>  Conference based in Évora <b>ALL WELCOME !</b>	DATE FOR YOUR DIARY ! International Spring Conference 2019 <b>“Bringing the Mediterranean Landscape into Your Garden”</b> Keynote Speakers <b>Olivier Filippi and James Basson</b> Pre-tour in the Algarve 1st to 4 <sup>th</sup> April – limited numbers	Contact <a href="mailto:mgapconference@gmail.com">mgapconference@gmail.com</a> for more information and to reserve places. Day Visitor bookings available plus Optional Day visits
<b>Saturday 27 April 10.00 for 10.30</b>  AGM of MGAP	<b>Annual General Meeting – Assembleia Geral</b> Will be held at Quinta da Figueirinha Business meeting to be followed by talk / guided visit / MGAP book sales etc.	More info from <a href="mailto:mgapsec@btinternet.com">mgapsec@btinternet.com</a> Details to be confirmed

## Message from Burford Hurry

President – Mediterranean Gardening Association of Portugal



Living in Portugal, particularly the Algarve, we have come to realise that winter has a particular significance here. Unlike our northern European counterparts we are spared snow and ice and in return, although we have colder weather, we also have rain and sunny days. The result is that our gardens don't have to be wrapped up and protected for winter in fact in many cases, it is showtime. In a way autumn prepares us for that. With gorgeous *Amaryllis belladonna* 'suddenly' appearing in our gardens and in my patch the branches of a small almond tree hung with the small white bells of *Clematis cirrhosa*. All these followed in quick succession by the first flowering antlers of the aloes so that by the time January arrives we have the fiery red heads of *Aloe arborescens* setting fire to the garden. In the *campo* there are clouds of delicate pink and white almond blossom and fragile *Narcissus papyraceus* and groves of Citrus trees fill the air with their beauty and their perfume. Winter is special in this part of the world.

Autumn and winter is also time for planting and with this in mind we held our Autumn Fair in Sao Bras on the last Saturday in October last year. Once again it was very successful. We were helped in this regard by good early rains which encouraged people to buy and plant. Hopefully the rains will also have encouraged us to prepare our spring gardens and in turn ready ourselves for the onslaught of summer. I was reminded of the latter last week in an email from Caroline Davies, the president of the MGS, when she mentioned the daily temperatures of 40 degrees in Melbourne.

2018 has also seen the gradual development of the MGAP botanic garden near Silves and a recent popular seed and cuttings event and donations have underlined the interest in its further development.

In April this year we will be having an international conference in Evora with the theme '**Bringing the Mediterranean Landscape into your Garden**' with practical key note speakers like Olivier Filippi, James Basson and others. It will be an extremely rewarding event for those enthusiastic gardeners participating and I look forward to meeting some of you there.

On that very positive note may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very good gardening year.

**Burford Hurry**

We need your skills and talents to help on our **Management Committee** so please consider joining us, on the Committee, and be part of the group setting future and exciting priorities for the Association. Specifically we are looking for technical help with updating **the web site**, help with running the **Garden Fairs** and developing our **book sales table**.

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## **Mediterranean Spring Garden Fair** **Saturday March 16 2019** **NEW VENUE !!**

For the first time, this spring event will be held in the dedicated FISSUL exhibition centre in the town centre of Silves, next to the river. There will be more space for exhibitors and all under cover. Free extensive car parking.

An opportunity to buy the most appropriate plants for your garden and benefit from the advice and guidance of the knowledgeable nursery owners and MGAP Info Table. The usual programme of free talks will be provided. Open to MGAP members from 10am, open to the public 11am to 4pm.

As always, we are interested to hear of any good new plant nurseries that may wish to be invited, please pass any recommendations to [mqapfairs@gmail.com](mailto:mqapfairs@gmail.com)

After completing your purchases or if you need some time to consider the choices available you can take in one of the free talks and take advantage of the plant crèche where you can leave your purchases in safe hands while you continue to enjoy the many attractions of the day.

Catering will also be available. There will also be a range of organic produce and products for sale and the MGAP stall offering new and second hand specialist gardening books, wildflower seeds, advice and information.

Members and guests only, entry at 10.00am – open to the public from 11.00am

As ever, **VOLUNTEERS are needed** to make the event a success, so please **let us know** if you can help - sitting down jobs available ! email [mgapfairs@gmail.com](mailto:mgapfairs@gmail.com)

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## MGAP International Spring Conference April 4-8 2019 *"Bringing the Mediterranean Landscape into Your Garden"*



The 2019 Conference weekend will be based in Évora 4 to 8 April with a pre-tour (1 to 4 April) in the Algarve including the Barrocal Botanic Garden, private garden visits and wildflower walks. We are very happy to confirm that our Keynote Speakers on Saturday 6 April in Évora will be **Olivier Filippi** author of masterworks on Dry Gardening in the Mediterranean climate zones [www.jardin-sec.com](http://www.jardin-sec.com) and **James Basson** of Scape Design Studio [www.scapedesign.com](http://www.scapedesign.com) Working in the South of France for over 18 years he has established a reputation for creating low maintenance, dry gardens that mix contemporary design with traditional skills. His Gold Medal winning gardens at Chelsea Flower Show include the use of native plants in a recreated Maltese Quarry.

We are working closely with Évora University for this event and we hope to attract students on relevant courses to join us. All MGAP and MGS organisation members and friends have been invited to join us. The event is open to all, please register your interest as soon as possible. The full programme and details of the optional day visits are available via the link on the front page of our web site [www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org)

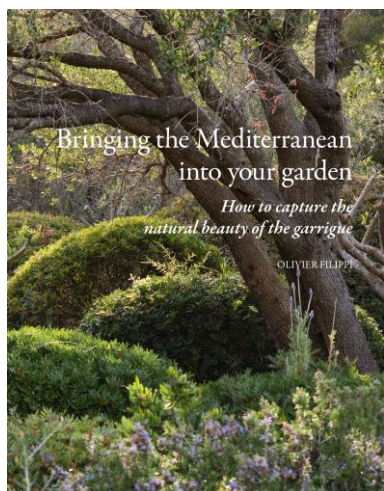
Contact [mgapconference@gmail.com](mailto:mgapconference@gmail.com) for more information and to reserve your places. Day visitor and residential packages available.

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**Mediterranean Garden Fair, 27 October 2018** Full report and photos available here <http://newsandevents.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/>

**REPORTS** on past events throughout 2018 are available on the MGAP web site.

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### ***Bringing the Mediterranean into your garden*** How to capture the natural beauty of the garrigue ***NEW BOOK available to pre-order !***

We have recently had news that Olivier Filippi's third book is planned to be available in an English edition early in 2019.

MGAP has pre-ordered some copies and you can reserve your own copy for collection at our Spring International Conference or to collect on the Algarve during early April. This book is for sale at 40 euro per copy and can also be sent to you plus postage costs.

Contact to reserve a copy or for more info  
[MGAPTreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:MGAPTreasurer@gmail.com)

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## **NEWS FROM MEDITERRANEAN GARDENING INTERNATIONAL**



Another new group has been accepted into the Mediterranean Gardening International family, The Okanagan Xeriscaping Association (OXA) has become the latest member taking the number of organisations to eight. The society is a valuable addition to our already very international organisation with much in common with other Mediterranean climate areas.

The Okanagan Valley is located in BC's southern interior and is the northern part of a large desert region stretching south to the peninsula of Baja California in Mexico. The region has hot dry summers (25 - 35°C) and cold winters, (average low temperature -8°), so pretty similar to the climate in Mediterranean France, though Okanagan has more snow than we do. It is a major centre for the cultivation of fruit trees and vines. Alfredo Unda from Chile visited the group and was received warmly by OXA. He was impressed by the quality of the work the association is doing to educate the community in dry gardening techniques, and by the demonstration garden they have created. He wrote an [article](#) about his visit for the Mediterranean Gardening Chile website. I was hugely impressed by their website, especially the extensive illustrated plant database.

<http://okanaganxeriscape.org/>



*The Okanagan Xeriscape Association was founded in British Columbia, Canada in 2009 to educate the community about gardening with nature and conserving water while creating attractive and colourful landscapes. By 2010, creation of a xeriscape demonstration garden was underway to inspire people to use native and Mediterranean-type (drought-resistant) plants in order to reduce the use of outdoor water and produce healthy plants using fewer pesticides. Classes, workshops for professionals and the public, presentations, a brochure, website and detailed plant database are all tools used by OXA to support the principles of xeriscape. Volunteers, community groups, businesses and governments all worked collaboratively to create the UnH2O Xeriscape Demonstration Garden in front of the City of Kelowna's aquatic building, the H2O Adventure and Fitness Centre.*

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**MGi Seed List** - Chantal Guiraud has updated the seed list in readiness for winter sowing. See the link below for full list and how to obtain and to donate seed.

<http://www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org/infSEE2.htm>

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**NEWS** I have just received news of a recommended seed supplier based in Athens, Greece. We have put his lists onto our MGAP web site and you can see his Garden Plants, Bulbs and Salvia lists here <http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/LibertoDiarioSeeds.html>

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## **BOTANIC GARDEN UPDATE**

Report and photos from the recent Open Day, workshops and guided visit, at the Botanic Garden. [http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/recent\\_events.html](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org/recent_events.html)

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**Emily Dickinson's Herbarium:** A Forgotten Treasure at the Intersection of Science and Poetry  
An elegy for time and the mortality of beauty, composed with passionate patience and a sensuous cadence. The photo facsimiles of the herbarium are now available to readers at the Houghton Library and still present the girl Emily appealingly: the one who misspelled, who arranged pressed flowers in artistic form, who with Wordsworthian tenderness considered nature her friend.

<https://www.brainpickings.org/2017/05/23/emily-dickinson-herbarium/>

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## Western Algarve – Garden Group for the Lagos area

A programme of monthly meetings is organised for anyone interested in Algarve Gardening. Anyone wishing to become actively involved can contact the coordinator, Heather Thomson, by email at [wagardeninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:wagardeninggroup@gmail.com) for more information. Meetings last about 2 hours and are normally held on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 10.00am.

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## NEWS from the AAJBA (Associação dos Amigos do Jardim Botânico da Ajuda) of Lisbon

Novo Cursos para 2019 consultar <http://aajba.com/Cursos/Cursos20182019.aspx>

Incluindo **PLANTAS PARA JARDINS SEM REGA** Sabado 30 Março

<http://www.aajba.com/pt-pt/Viagens/2019.aspx>

**Relembramos que ao participarem nas iniciativas da AAJBA estão a contribuir para o restauro do Jardim Botânico da Ajuda, pois o lucro das viagens será investido no jardim.**

Visitem também o nosso [site](#) e a nossa página no [Facebook](#).

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e-mail: [info@aajba.com](mailto:info@aajba.com) | [Facebook](#)

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**Beira Grass Roots Gardeners** – Friendly, free to join, group of enthusiastic gardeners in the Beiras area of Central Portugal. We aim to bring together enthusiastic gardeners to share horticultural knowledge, tips, success stories and failures! We have regular meet-ups, visits to gardens and nurseries, and run many plant and garden events. For more info and to join the email list contact [beiragrassroots@gmail.com](mailto:beiragrassroots@gmail.com)

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**Facebook page [Mediterranean Gardeners – Portugal](#)** is updated regularly with links and relevant information. Follow and Like to be kept up to date. Latest Info on our Facebook page :- <https://www.facebook.com/MedGardenersPortugal>

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**EVENTS in Mediterranean Gardening International** (MGAP Members will be welcomed at events, subject to availability of places. Please contact the local organiser shown.)

Information on events in France, UK, South Africa, Chile, Canada and California, and also the Margaret River region in Australia available via

<http://www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org>

Activities are open to MGAP members, members of partner associations and, where places are available, guests. Where the number of places for a particular event is limited, priority will be given to local members. An exciting and varied programme of international events is available and a warm welcome from keen fellow gardeners is assured !

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**Mediterranean Gardening Forum** for your plant and gardening queries, monitored by a panel of experienced and knowledgeable Mediterranean gardeners. Members of MGAP can access this forum via the link at top right of the front page of our web site

[www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org)

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Linnean Society of London **PODCASTS** on all manner of Natural History related topics from The Space Potato to Lady Pleasance Smith, the latest talk available looks at climate change threats to beds of coral. <https://soundcloud.com/user-679811756>

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## **Data Protection Notice**

MGAP / APEJECM holds contact details (where supplied - name, address, telephone number and email address) for the purpose of membership administration and providing membership benefits, such as emailing our publications and facilitating member networking. We also send out regular information on events, opportunities and conservation projects to members plus non-members who request to join our general mailing list.

You can contact [mgapmembers@gmail.com](mailto:mgapmembers@gmail.com) at any time to request a listing of the information that we hold about you on file, and/or to be removed selectively from our different mailing lists. Returning an email received from MGAP / APEJECM with "**REMOVE**" added in the subject line will delete your details and name from our records within 7 days, stopping all future email correspondence, after which we will not contact you again.

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### **Regional Contacts:**

**Lisbon area** – Ben Weijers Paquete, Tel: 219 291 841

Email: [quintadocorvo@yahoo.com](mailto:quintadocorvo@yahoo.com)

**Beira area** – Marion ter Horst, Tel: 917 850 235

Email: [s.m.terhorst@gmail.com](mailto:s.m.terhorst@gmail.com)

**Algarve area** - Rosie Peddle, Tel. 289 791 869

Email: [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net)

**Minho area** – Chloe Parrott Tel. 966 971 275

Email: [chloe@meo.pt](mailto:chloe@meo.pt)

### **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

We have a friendly and informal group for everyone who has a special interest in the plants and gardens of Mediterranean climates. The aims of MGAP (Mediterranean Gardening Association Portugal) include education and encouraging the exchange of information and of experiences.

Web site [www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org) contains articles as well as news, notices, practical information and comment. Please pass on this newsletter to anyone interested. MGAP is affiliated to The Mediterranean Garden Society.

**Membership Secretary** Margaret Jackson email [mgapmembers@gmail.com](mailto:mgapmembers@gmail.com)

If you no longer wish to receive these newsletters then please do let us know by sending a return email with **REMOVE** in the subject line to [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net)