



APEJECM

ASSOCIAÇÃO DE PLANTAS E JARDINS EM CLIMAS MEDITERRÂNICOS  
**Mediterranean Gardening Association – Portugal**

including

**THE MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN SOCIETY**  
 Portugal Branch - Members & Friends



## Newsletter No. 3

## January 2015

[www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org) and [www.gardeninginportugal.com](http://www.gardeninginportugal.com)

Facebook page/[Mediterranean Gardeners – Portugal](https://www.facebook.com/MediterraneanGardeners-Portugal)

**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-vindo aos membros e amigos em Portugal com interesse no Jardinagem Mediterrâneo.** Se souber de alguém que esteja interessado em jardinagem mediterrânica agradecemos que passa 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.

2015	EVENTS	Info
27 <sup>th</sup> February Almancil, Algarve 10.00 to 16.00 including lunch	<b>Lawn Alternatives</b> <b>What to do instead . . . .</b> <b><u>ALL WELCOME</u></b> <b><i>Talks and Garden Visits</i></b>	Showing Olivier Filippi talk followed by Q & A Session with professional landscapers and experienced gardeners and garden & nursery visits  <b><i>Aquarelle Restaurant, Almancil</i></b>
13 <sup>th</sup> March Evening	<b><u>Members meeting</u></b> <b>Meet the Author</b> Olivier Filippi visit to Algarve	Evening social event with Olivier & Clara Filippi, book signing, Q&A, reserved places for evening meal
25 <sup>th</sup> March 10.30 am	<b>MGA Members and Friends</b> <b><u>Annual General Meeting</u></b> <b>Speaker – John Fielding on</b> <b>Wildflowers of the Algarve</b>	Business meeting to set priorities for coming year followed by an illustrated talk by <b>John Fielding</b> on the <b><i>Wonderful Wildflowers of the Algarve.</i></b> Wildflower walk in the afternoon. <i>Venue to be confirmed</i>
29 <sup>th</sup> March Evening meeting	<b><u>Members meeting</u></b> Trainees from Professional Gardeners Guild	Meet the Trainees and hear about their course. Bar and light refreshments at the Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves <a href="http://www.qdf.pt">www.qdf.pt</a>
11 <sup>th</sup> April Saturday Open to Public From 10.30am	<b><u>Spring Plant Sale</u></b> Selected Nurseries, Plant Clinic and Tours of the Quinta <b><i>Helpers and Plants Wanted !</i></b>	Our first Spring event for nurseries, will include MGAP Plant Stall and info, held at Quinta da Figueirinha, near Silves.
1 <sup>st</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> May Estoril, Lisbon	<b><u>INTERNATIONAL</u></b> <b><u>CONFERENCE</u></b> <b><i>The Portuguese Garden</i></b> <b><i>Past, Present and Future</i></b> Programme on request	What are the unique characteristics that make The Portuguese Garden ? Garden Visits & Presentations covering history, design and future trends.



Almond blossom time in the Algarve is with us now. A glorious reminder that spring is on its way. So far it has been a relatively good winter as we have had a fair amount of rain this season. Of course we as gardeners would always like more of the wet stuff, but it's a reasonable start.

This promises to be a very productive and interesting year for the newly created Mediterranean Gardening Association. It is starting its young life with a bang hosting several exciting events throughout the year as a glance at this Newsletter no 3 will confirm.

The first annual general meeting of Mediterranean Gardening Association Portugal (MGAP) will be on the 25th of March. Could I urge you to put that date in your diary now as the Association would like to hear from you about the path/s you would like us to pursue. After covering the more formal aspects involved in the AGM we will have as a guest speaker John Fielding who will be giving an illustrated talk on the wild flowers of the Algarve. John is a botanist who has several respected publications under his belt including being the co-author of *The Wild Flowers of Crete*. And after lunch John has volunteered to take us on a walk through the countryside to have a closer look at the local wild flowers.

In April we are staging a plant fair to welcome spring and to satisfy the planting urges of all those gardeners whose fingers have been itching to get planting after winter. This plant fair will be a little different from the autumn ones that have been held in the past as it will have a more rural setting near Silves but once again we will be promoting plants that enjoy life in the Mediterranean sun. As a special treat for MGAP members we will open the fair one hour early with entry limited to members and guests only. Needless to say there will also be an autumn fair for those gardeners who have a more disciplined approach to planting.

Bearing in mind the national character of the Association we will be staging our fourth spring conference in Estoril near Lisbon in early May which will give us an opportunity to see classic as well as private gardens in and around the city with the guidance of knowledgeable gardeners and botanists. It will be a real opportunity to discover the history of Portuguese gardens while at the same time getting to know more about the plants and wild flowers which we could use in our gardens. I am looking forward in particular to visiting SIGMETUM the first and only plant nursery dedicated solely to the native plants of Portugal; that together with a talk from Dr Jorge Paiva, a renowned botanist and speaker, on a secondary school garden near Barcelos, where indigenous plants have been used over the last 24 years, should be very interesting.

But I ramble on, let us hope we have a wonderful gardening year ahead, helping each other as much as possible to make that happen. We look forward to seeing and meeting as many of you as possible at the AGM on 25th March.

***PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER and support the work of our new Association***

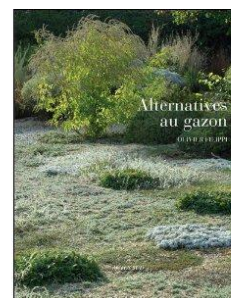
**Burford Hurry**

**LAWN ALTERNATIVES – What to do instead ? Friday February 27<sup>th</sup>**

A full day looking at case studies, showing talk by Olivier Filippi with Q&A session and garden visits. Based in Almancil.  
Marilyn Medina Ribeiro and Jean-Claude Defrance will join us for this event.

**PROGRAMME**

10.00 – 10.30	Arrival, Introductions and Coffee etc.
10.30 prompt	<i>Lawn Alternatives in Mediterranean Climates</i> an online talk from Olivier Filippi based on his latest book and in English with his original slides.
11.30 – 12.15	<i>Presentation of Case Studies</i> from Marilyn Medina Ribeiro and Jean-Claude Defrance, professional landscapers with experience of Algarve conditions and the opportunity to ask questions and discuss various options.
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch in the Aquarelle Restaurant
14.00 – 16.00	Visits including the nearby Natura Garden Centre and private gardens.



The talk on **Lawn Alternatives in Mediterranean Climates** follows closely the theme of the latest book from Olivier Filippi, *Alternatives au Gazon*. The book is not yet available in English but we have recently heard that there is a publisher interested in producing an English edition. The talk is approx. 50 minutes but can be paused for an interval.

**Cost:** MGAP members is 20 euros per person, non-members 25 euros per person including lunch with two courses. Full details and further information available on request. Please reserve your places as soon as possible and **by Friday February 20<sup>th</sup>** at the latest. **Places are limited.** Contact Rosie Peddle [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net) or tel 289 791 869

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**Members and guests meeting Meet the Author - Olivier Filippi** visit to Algarve  
Olivier and Clara Filippi will be on a private hiking holiday to the Alentejo, but have kindly accepted our invitation to meet up for an evening meal during their visit. Olivier has said he would be happy to talk to members and answer questions as well as sign his books for those who wish it. Current plans are for this to be on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**, probably on the western Algarve but details will be confirmed nearer the date. IF you are interested in attending please contact Rosie Peddle so that numbers can be estimated and an appropriate venue investigated.

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**MGAP Members and Friends**  
**Annual General Meeting – Assembleia Geral**  
Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am

**Keynote Speaker – John Fielding on Wildflowers of Algarve**

Business meeting and discussion to set priorities for coming year followed by an illustrated talk by **John Fielding** on the *Wonderful Wildflowers of the Algarve*. Wildflower walk in the afternoon.

Our first Annual General Meeting following the establishment work of the past twelve months for our new Association. This is an important milestone and we hope as many members as possible will be able to participate. The Agenda and documents will be circulated in advance and if you have any items you wish to be included on the Agenda please send them to Secretary Rosie Peddle at [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net) by February 25<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Further details and copies of the Statutes available on request.

**John Fielding** is a Royal Botanic Gardens Kew trained professional horticulturist, photographer, author, garden designer and plant breeder. He gave a talk on Mediterranean Bulbs at our 2013 Spring Conference and is the joint author of the acclaimed *Flowers of Crete*. He cultivates a large range of plants in his private collection, especially Mediterranean species. John is on two Committees of the RHS. His web site is [www.jfimages.co.uk](http://www.jfimages.co.uk)

Venue to be confirmed

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**Spring Plant Sale Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> 10.30am to 5.00pm**

Quinta da Figueirinha, Silves [www.qdf.pt](http://www.qdf.pt)  
Selected Nurseries, Plant Clinic and Tours of the Quinta

Following the wonderful response to the annual autumn Garden Fairs in recent years we have decided to take the big step of holding our first Spring Plant Sale in the western side of the Algarve. We hope to have new specialist nurseries and a big range of plants for sale. As a special treat for MGAP members we will open the fair one hour early with entry limited to members and guests only.

***Helpers and Plants Wanted !***

Please come and enjoy the spring fair and also give a little time to its general running. You can choose what you wish to do, as we need help in a variety of ways: parking coordinator, selling plants or books at the MGAP stalls, share your plant expertise at the clinic or information point at the membership stall. Your one or two-hour commitment as a volunteer will go a long way in making the fair another success. As a Thank You for your help, you will be able to buy plants with discount/or get one free at the MGAP stall.

Please let Regina Shrimpton know which are your volunteering preferences by phone 912971312 or by email to [regina.shrimpton@gmail.com](mailto:regina.shrimpton@gmail.com) **Thank you !**

**4<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL SPRING CONFERENCE 2015**  
***The Portuguese Garden***  
**Past, Present and Future**  
**Friday/Saturday/Sunday May 1 / 2 / 3 Estoril, Lisbon**  
**Keynote Speakers – Jorge Paiva & Gerald Luckhurst**



*Rosa 'La Follette' Monserrate Rose Garden*

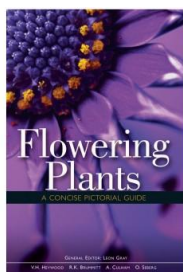
*“This event has been organised to reveal the unique character of gardens in Portugal, through their history, current projects and their future potential.”*

For our 4<sup>th</sup> Spring Conference and our first with the new Association in Portugal, we will visit some of the best historic and private gardens in the Lisbon area including Monserrate park and palace in Sintra with its recently restored Mexican and Rose gardens. There will be illustrated talks on the historical context for Portuguese gardens. The use of plants from all corners of the globe illustrates the influence of Portuguese history and we will show modern trends towards use of native plants for sustainable gardens together with the future potential for garden tourism to support development, use and appreciation of gardens in Portugal.

The conference will be based in Estoril, the charming sea side town to the west of Lisbon. Our conference base is the Four Star Vila Galé Hotel but as our dates are also a Bank Holiday weekend you are advised to secure travel and accommodation as soon as possible. We have some rooms reserved at the Vila Galé that can be booked on a “first come first served” basis, and can advise on other hotels as needed. Residential bookings should be made as soon as possible and before 13<sup>th</sup> February to secure hotel rooms in the venue. For a full programme and to book: [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net)

***Algarve sustentavel* – Pavilhão da Fissul Silves**  
**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February & Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 10.00 – 23.00**

Fair with trade stands, music, regional food and plant nurseries, organised by Talentos Escondidos Lda and in collaboration with Silves Camara in aid of Bombeiros Voluntários de Silves e Messines More info from José Assis (Telm: 91 939 4837)



Tradition dictates that this is the time of year for SALES

Check out the Kewbooks New Year sale. There are a number of titles with exclusive online promotions, with at least 50% off the retail price, and in some cases up to 65%. With titles across the Kew list on offer, there are many bargains to be had, for example,

**Flowering Plants: A Concise Pictorial Guide reduced to £10.00 ~~£25.00~~**

<http://shop.kew.org/kewbooksonline/kewbooks-sale>

**Open Garden weekend, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December**, Moncarapacho Many thanks to everyone who came along to support this event, it was glorious weather for garden visiting and it was very good to see so many keen plant buyers ! The full range of publications was available to buy and the Clematis was full of flower and even the swimming pond looked very inviting although it was a little too cold to swim. A warm welcome to our new members who joined over the weekend and there was lots of garden gossip to enjoy with the tea and buns. If there is anyone else out there willing to have an Open Garden visit from members then please let us know. It is good way of exchanging ideas and information.

**Plants – joint orders for members**

As we now have a legally registered Association here in Portugal we can take advantage of some of the opportunities this gives us for joint orders for plants and bulbs for members.

We have plans to open accounts for the purchase of citrus, plants and bulbs. Please let us know if you are interested in taking part in joint orders.

At this stage I believe we must limit this benefit to members only, owing to the retail rules. I will need to know the level of interest before proceeding, please contact [Rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:Rosie@thebtf.net)



MGAP is pleased to announce that our association has become one of three founder members of **Mediterranean Gardening International**, an informal community of like-minded societies with a shared interest in Mediterranean plants and gardening.

Please take a moment to have a look at the new web page [www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeninginternational.org) which sets out the principles and how we operate. We hope that the web page will act as a portal for people with similar interests, anywhere in the world, and that in the future, other garden and plant groups from Mediterranean–climate countries will join us.

When you've looked at the page, we'd be pleased to hear your views.

NEWS from Med. Plants & Gardens Assoc. UK Web site <http://www.medpag.org>

NEWS from Mediterranean Gardening France Web site <http://www.mediterraneangardeningfrance.org/index.htm>

**Beira Gardening Group** 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 will be organising regular meets- where our gardeners can share horticultural tips, find out how to grow and identify plants, and buy or swap plants and seeds. We will also be providing regular fact sheets, plus a Beira plant profile every month. If you want to take part in our events, and garden meet ups please get in touch and we'll put you on the mailing list.

[beiragrassroots@gmail.com](mailto:beiragrassroots@gmail.com)

<http://beiragrassroots.blogspot.pt/>

**Semana de Turismo Natureza, Algarve celebrates Nature Tourism** with a week of activities and displays. 11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Algarve Tourism will promote, in April 2015, the first "Algarve Nature Week" event, which is to be a nature tourism showcase with sector operators and the general public getting involved.

The vice president of the Algarve Tourism Board, John Fernandes, said that it was a week in which the tourist and accommodation companies distributed throughout the region will be promoted in the regional, national and international market. Activities such as boating or donkey or pony trekking, diving, dolphin watching, bird watching and cycling are some of the offers available scheduled for the week of 11 and 19 April, at prices that the organization expects to also be attractive for residents as well as visitors.

In the last three days of the week, companies will participate in a trade show scheduled for Riverside Park Faro, facing the Ria Formosa, to promote contacts between companies and tour operators. The first day of the fair will be dedicated to the Algarve school community, allowing young people to experience the various activities free of charge. "Algarve Nature Week" is being promoted by Turismo de Portugal and the Algarve Tourism Board and has the support of the Algarve Tourism Association in promotion efforts abroad that will bring some specialized tour operators to the region to get to know the available opportunities.

**One company promoting Nature Tourism has a brochure available here**

<http://issuu.com/proactivetur/docs/120711134419-153152bb6bea49e3a922ec1ff1bf2d95>

**Wild Orchids of the Algarve – how, when and where to find them by Sue Parker (First Nature)**  
ISBN: 978-0-9560544-8-7; Hardback binding; RRP €23

Despite its small geographical area, Portugal's Algarve region is home to at least 1500 native wildflower species including more than 30 wild orchids. For tourists and residents alike these are major attractions of the very varied Algarve countryside.

For newcomers in particular, wild orchids can be hard to find and even harder to identify. Wild Orchids of the Algarve – how, when and where to find them solves these problems, providing easy-to-follow introductions to the biology and habitats of orchids, and explaining in non-scientific language why the Algarve is such a special place.

More than 200 colour photographs of the orchids, both in their natural settings and as stunning close-up pictures of their flowers, ensure that readers will be able to identify the orchids they find on countryside rambles. Also included are tips for photographing flowers, as well as a comprehensive guide to top orchid sites and walks in the various parts of the Algarve.

An illustrated Table of Contents and a pictorial Glossary of Botanical Terms make this a uniquely accessible guidebook. Written by author and broadcaster Sue Parker, this first ever comprehensive guide to the wild orchids of the Algarve is based on 16 years of research and photography in the area.

Naturalist Sue Parker's fascination with orchids stems from her childhood in the Far East. The colourful wildflowers growing over her garden fence in Singapore were the kind of exotic orchids that many people in Europe now have in pots on windowsills. The search for wild orchids has taken Sue to many countries; but, as she says, there is a special satisfaction in finding and identifying beautiful orchids close to home – and for the past 16 years Sue's home in Carvoeiro has been a base for studying the Algarve's wonderful wildflowers and, in particular, its wild orchids.

An active conservationist, Sue is the author of 12 books and several dozen articles on wildlife and countryside topics; she is well known in the Algarve for her column on Sustainable Living, which is published monthly in the Algarve Resident newspaper.

Website at [www.algarvewildlife.com](http://www.algarvewildlife.com) **Copies available at MGAP events or from Rosie Peddle**

**Can you help ?** we have been offered the opportunity to submit articles to the national Portuguese gardening magazine **Jardins** which is produced monthly and circulated widely. We have many good articles in English and these are normally about 600 to 800 words. Can you offer to help translate these into Portuguese ? this would also be useful for our own web site but would be an invaluable way of publicizing our Association and of sharing our enthusiasm for appropriate and sustainable Mediterranean gardening with a much wider audience. If you would like more information please contact Rosie Peddle [rosie@thebtf.net](mailto:rosie@thebtf.net) **Thank You !**

### **Regional Contacts:**

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

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

Contact and Newsletter Compiler: Rosie Peddle, Quinta das Sesmarias 275-M, Fornalha, Moncarapacho, OLHÃO 8700-091 Tel. & Email as above. Newsletter contributions welcome.

### **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. The web site at [www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org](http://www.mediterraneangardeningportugal.org) contains articles on diverse aspects of mediterranean gardening as well as news, notices, practical information and comment. All information is normally distributed via email but can also be posted on request. Please pass on this newsletter to anyone interested.

Post your plant, garden pics or queries here [www.facebook.com/MediterraneanGardenersPortugal](http://www.facebook.com/MediterraneanGardenersPortugal)

If you no longer wish to receive these newsletters then please do let me know by sending a return email with **REMOVE** in the subject line.

Further information about the Mediterranean Garden Society can be found on the main web site [www.mediterraneangardensociety.org](http://www.mediterraneangardensociety.org) All MGS members in Portugal are welcome to take part in our events and are included in all mailings.