

Herault Gardeners Open Gardens 10/11/12 May 2019

Who	Where	When	Description
Elaine Robinson	Our address for people with GPS is Saint-Martin, Pouzolles. Our road has no sign, so otherwise follow signs to Domaine Eric Gelly, and we're the next (and only) house, up the road from there. Best to park by the water tower. Please ring the bell	Friday 10 May morning & Saturday 11 May afternoon	We have a walled garden of just under an acre, with mature trees, plus citrus and other fruit trees. We have a couple of active bee hives, and lots of wild flowers to keep them busy. The garden is definitely a work in progress.
Sally Wheeldon	7 rue Marcel Pagnol, 34320 Roujan	All day Saturday 11 May	Small garden, Back yard tiled (for dogs!!) .. Interest to anyone thinking of getting rid of grass and seeing a gravelled garden - now three years old
Jenny Curra	25 Rue du Conseil Général, Neffiès	Saturday 11 May	Our garden is v informal/relaxed with lots of wild flowers and a small potager, three levels and two lawns and quite a lot of plants/shrubs and shady corners with lovely benches to sit on.
Margaret Griffith	21 Route de Gabian, 34320, Roujan	Friday 10 May 10:00 - 18:00 & Saturday 11 May 10:00 - 18:00	Our garden is a much loved part of our life. It allows us to potter at will and literally enjoy the fruits of our labours. It is a place to entertain friends or sit and relax on the seating dotted about. It is on one level and is very informal - we have been told that our objets trouvés (junk to some!) are quirky. The planting is eclectic/random, and would probably give purists a nightmare, however it is a work in progress and we just love spending time in it
Matilde & Rowan Holloway & Teddy Hutton	Route de Vailhan, Roujan (on your right just before going through the bridge).	Saturday 11 May	A small shared allotment lying off the Vailhan road from Roujan. Originally a disused vineyard, we have done our best to improve the soil, plant fruit trees, and struggle with visits from sangliers, moles, ragondins and all the pests and diseases of the region. Irrigation is achieved by a home made magical ram pump. A little rural haven.
Inger Stockvik	10, rue des Amandiers Alignan du Vent	Friday 10 from 14:00 & Saturday 11 May (all day)	I should imagine that this garden contains the largest collection of roses in the Languedoc! 70+ varieties.
Elise Hale	1 Bis rue de la Tuilerie Roujan	Saturday 11 May, 2-6	A small town garden full of colour and many different varieties of plants. Low maintenance garden.

Who	Where	When	Description
Ginny Fraser	13 rue de la Tuilerie, 34480 Laurens	Friday 10 May, Saturday 11 May & Sunday 12 May afternoon from 14.30	A delightful walled garden over the road from Ginny's house. Full of plants it is a hidden sanctuary.
Patricia Miller	9 Impasse Paulin Portal, Laurens 34480	Friday 10 May & Saturday 11 May	Our garden is divided into two parts. One is a traditional parterre and the other a gravel garden
Lizzie Ballantyne	185 Chemin de Bassol, Hameau de La Caumette, 34600, Faugeres	Friday 10 May & Saturday 11 May 10:00 - 13:00 Sunday 10:00-13:00 & 14:00-16:30	A one acre garden, just six years old, being created on a hillside. The soil is pure schist - a former vineyard. Great views, places to sit, coffee/tea & cake. Features a no-dig vegetable garden and a reclaimed pond. I grow everything from organic seed. There will probably be some vegetable plants on sale too.
Berengere Casanove	Chemin de Bassol, Hameau de La Caumette, 34600, Faugeres	Friday 10 May & Saturday 11 May 10:00 - 13:00 Sunday 10:00-13:00 & 14:00-16:30	A huge hillside garden with spectacular views just across the lane from Lizzie's garden.
Paul Outhwaite	We (my wife, Liz and I) live in a little village not far from the Gorges d'Heric, Saint-Martin-de-l'Arçon. The address is simply Le village, Saint-Martin-de-l'Arçon! If you come along the D908 (in either direction), once you pass the village sign, take the road uphill (turning next to a bus shelter) signed Centre Village. Go up that road for about a kilometre and just after the Mairie (on the right), there's a visitors car park on the left. There is parking in the village itself but that's not always a given. From the car park it's about a 200 metre walk into the village. We are on the left after a big house behind the iron gates to our drive. We'll put a sign on them on the day to make things easier!	Friday 10 May, Saturday 11 May & Sunday 12 May	The garden (about 400m <sup>2</sup> ) is dominated by two venerable cherry trees that have a reputation in the village for producing some of the first cherries of the year, so visitors may be lucky! When we arrived, about three years ago, nothing had been done to the land for about a decade. We cleared the metre high grass (mostly by hand I might add!), found lots of rocks and starting laying out a garden. We brought in a bit of professional help in the form of Kate and Imogen from Le Jardin Champetre (excellent team...as if you didn't know already) who helped us with the first planting. We wanted a drought resistant garden that was good for wildlife and offered places to sit quietly. As the site is a bit of a goldfish bowl, we also wanted to build up some screening around the edges to provide some privacy. It also has the advantage of a spectacular view down the valley. We're getting there slowly and the difference from when we arrived is considerable. Still work to do (isn't there always) but we do now spend sometime actually sitting and enjoying it...before spotting something else that needs doing!

Who	Where	When	Description
Susan Sharratt	<p>7 rue du Boulodrome, 34210 Oupia</p> <p>Ours is the big house behind tall trees on the left at the top of rue du Boulodrome. The gates will be open; please park on the drive. Please pm an eta in advance, and/or call 07 89 59 50 57 if no-one appears on the drive when you arrive (we may be at the top of the orchard). For those needing more than cake, Oupia has a nice restaurant, l'Asphodèle - 04 68 91 80 70 - reservation recommended.</p>	<p>Friday 10 May &amp; Saturday 11 May 10:00 - 12:30 &amp; 14:00 - 16:30</p>	<p>We moved into our dilapidated maison de maître nearly five years ago but because to start with our lives were blighted by builders only started making the main garden the winter before last. So that isn't yet mature, but it is coming along nicely and giving us a great deal of pleasure. The planting is predominantly mediterranean and we're trying for drought-tolerant, though with super-calcaire soil and the summer we had last year plus racing lurchers we're asking our plants to tolerate lots of other things too. At the front of the house there's a stand of trees including tall pines (apparently mandatory for a mid-19C maison de maître) and a potager (the responsibility of Him Outdoors) in the lee of the trees, and above that we are creating an orchard.</p>
Jane & Merv Capewell	<p>41 Ave Jean Jaures, Causses et Veyran.</p>	<p>Friday 10 May &amp; Saturday 11 May 10:00-15:00</p>	<p>It's on the main road running through the village and we run a B&amp;B called Clos to Magnolia so it is easy to find. We've been here almost 9 years and have completely re-done the garden. We have a large magnolia tree in the middle (over 120 years old, hence the name of the property, but the rest of the garden was dirt and odd stone beds with nothing in them. It's quite large - sorry don't know exact size. We have added a pool and developed a garden around it, including vegetable and herb beds. The garden now looks very established - love how quickly everything grows here! We've had some successful planting but some mistakes too. All part of the garden learning process in this climate.</p>
Imogen Checketts & Kate Dumbleton	<p>19 bis Avenue de la Montagne Noire, 11160 Caunes-Minervois</p>	<p>Saturday 12 May</p>	<p>A demonstration garden and plant nursery specialising in perennials, ornamental grasses, bulbs, ground covers and herbs. The plant species have been selected to create a garden that needs minimal watering and is well adapted to the local climate (Occitanie, South of France). The two owner-gardeners have created a garden that's inspired by prairie style planting, English herbaceous borders and the local 'garrigue' landscape, as well as promoting biodiversity and pesticide-free gardening.</p>

Who	Where	When	Description
Catriona McLean	Le Jardin des Rossignols 34230 Popian Access: A75 dir. and exit Gignac, Dir towards Canet on D32. Take the 2nd left turn (1st turn after small road side villa with green shutters) and keep on the straight unmade up road leading through vineyards to Gignac canal metal bridge. Preferably park on road side before the bridge.	Saturday 11 May & Sunday 12 May 2.30 - 6pm	This is a dry garden, wild (prairie) but full of botanical mediterranean plants. Based on the philosophy of the nurseryman/ landscape gardener Olivier Filippi. No watering. There may be a charge to see this garden as it is part of the national Jardins Ouverts.
Richard & Philippa Gratton	Lieu dit Fongitie, 34490 Murviel les Beziers From Murviel follow signs to Saint Martin des Champs. We are the house on the left in the fields with blue shutters. Tel 0642359697	Friday 10 May & Sunday 12 May	There is a 30 ares mature irrigated garden around the house with an eye to low maintenance as this is a second home. Beyond that is about a hectare of land with some experimental borders of dry garden Mediterranean plants and a large flowering meadow, cunningly disguised as an unkempt field. Beyond that are vines and a 360 degree view of the countryside including, according to the agent, 13 villages. There will be a prize if you can spot and name all 13!
Diane & Ian Greenall	4 Rue du Cres, Pouzolles 34480	Friday 10 May 10:00 - 17:00	We have a medium sized garden which is mainly gravelled with borders, a new vegetable garden which is being planted up for the first time this year, and an area to the front which is basically chaos (any ideas gratefully received). The garden has an interesting mixture of different colour foliage and an oversize fountain in the middle! We are on a one way street on the edge of the village, so parking is problematical. Please don't park on the one way street - for the sake of neighbours' sanity. There is ample parking in the village square (a steep walk up to our house though) or at the end of the road along the vineyard.