

Fourteen members of the Garden Group met on 2nd December at L'Albarda Gardens, near Pedreguer, for a guided visit of this 'Mediterranean Show Garden'.



Paul Pruden, our guide, provided a wealth of information not only on the native flora grown here, but also on the endeavours of the Fundem Foundation, which owns this 50,000 sq.m. garden.

A beautiful house (built 25 years ago) dominates the centre of the gardens, which are



used by this nature conservation charity to preserve the natural flora and fauna of the region, and to this end, the garden is planted with a variety of trees, fruit trees, flowering shrubs, herbs and flowering plants which are indigenous to the area, which thus require minimum irrigation and maintenance costs.



There are walkways covered with wisteria and climbing roses;



a magnificent 'shade-house' where a variety of palms are cultivated; a mini-Montgo which is planted with a wide variety of flora which only grows on the Montgo and cleared areas where natural regeneration is scientifically observed; and much, much more.



This is a garden which needs to be visited throughout the seasons in order to fully appreciate its beauty.



The Group had a meeting in the garden's casita, and it was agreed that the next meeting would take place on 8th January (not 13th January as previously arranged) and it was proposed that we would invite a 'pruner' to a member's garden in order to demonstrate the best way to prune Mediterranean plants and trees.

Following the visit, we all had lunch at a local restaurant and had the opportunity to chat with others about our gardens and future meetings.

John Parsons
December 2008