

# An inspiring *Euphorbia* weekend!

The 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2019 will be remembered by the participants of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Euphorbia Convention. It offered six inspiring lectures with great pictures and even a multimedia presentation from speakers of the highest reputation in the world of succulent species and especially Euphorbiaceae, i.e. I.E.S. President Susan Carter (UK), Rolf Becker (Namibia), Thomas Haevermans (France), Joël Lodé (Spain), Ricarda Riina (Spain), and Alain Rzepecky (Portugal).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Convention gave plenty of time to visit one of the best *Euphorbia* collections in the World, the *Euphorbia* Collection curated by Thomas Cammaerts of the Botanic Garden Meise (Belgium), as well as to talk to other *Euphorbia* enthusiasts during coffee breaks, lunch, or in the evenings. Participants had the opportunity to buy new *Euphorbia* specimens, to watch a live demonstration on how to graft *Euphorbia* conducted by I.E.S. Chairman and skilled propagator Rikus van Veldhuisen, and to enjoy the beautiful Botanic Garden with its scenic Castle of Bouchout that housed the Convention.

The pictures shown here are intended to bring back memories of an inspiring weekend to those who attended the Convention, and to whet the appetite of those who did not, to attend the next event.

*Volker Buddensiek*



*Rolf Becker, Susan Carter, and Ricarda Riina in front of the scenic Castle of Bouchout in the Meise Botanic Garden*



*Participants and lecturers of the Convention discussing Euphorbia, travels and experiences.*







*The Euphorbia Collection of Meise Botanical Garden covers several glasshouses. Usually, it is not open to the public. For the Euphorbia Convention, curator and I.E.S. Officer Thomas Cammaerts opened doors and let visitors have a close look at his stupendous collection of rare specimens, some of them never seen in collections before.*



*Full attention: Rikus van Veldhuisen demonstrating how to successfully graft even tiny cuttings.*

*Photos: Thomas Cammaerts (3), Volker Buddensiek (2)*

