

**PRESS RELEASE** March 2022



## Step into Spring as the BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair returns to Hampshire in 2022

- The Hillier Experience - a garden of two halves
- Hillier launch Forsythia x intermedia 'Discovery' JOHN MITCHELL
- Longstock Estate Landscapes' garden 'The Longstock Way' and Jon Wheatley's 'Working Garden'
- NEW Plant Expert Tours and 'An Audience with...' in Beaulieu's Kitchen Gardens
- Frances Tophill and Joe Swift join Adam Frost and Matt Biggs on the expert line up

**To kick off the 2022 gardening season in style, the BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair partnered by Hillier returns to Beaulieu in Hampshire from 29 April to 1 May celebrating spring plants and gardens.**

Making a welcome return to the spectacular grounds and gardens of Beaulieu, home of the National Motor Museum and Palace House, the BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair will be full of spring garden inspiration. Visitors will be able to buy plants and gardening kit, get garden ideas and advice, taste and buy food and drink, be entertained and explore the Beaulieu attraction.

Hillier, headline Fair partner, present the **Hillier Experience**, with large garden feature, advice and shop. The garden will be a design of two halves to highlight both a contemporary garden with an outdoor living focus, alongside a traditional cottage garden with kaleidoscopic herbaceous border and Gertrude



Jekyll inspired planting. Experts from the Hillier team will be available offering tips and advice to visitors and a large retail section will provide an opportunity to buy plants featured within the garden design. There will also be the chance to buy the newly launched Forsythia x intermedia 'Discovery' JOHN MITCHELL that has been added to the Hillier collection this year.

Visitors will be able to drop in at the **BBC Gardeners' World Magazine Stage** where the editors host a line-up of special guests including **Adam Frost** on Friday, **Joe Swift** on Saturday, **France Tophill** on Sunday and Gardeners' Question Time panellist **Matt Biggs** each day. New this year, expert talks will take place twice daily in the vegetable gardens at Beaulieu.

A riot of colour will be found in the displays of up to thirty specialist nurseries, all with quality plants to buy. Award-winning nurseries from the local area, **New Forest Hostas** and **Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants**, return plus, **Hampshire Carnivorous** and **LV Bespoke**, **Green Jjam**, **WS Lockyear** and **Pheasant Acre Plants** join the Fair for time first time this year. In addition, visitors will be able to browse and buy from a range of garden exhibitors from Stihl tools to boutique brands such as Made By Alpacas' natural fertilisers and Little Allotment Company kits. Helping visitors shop to their heart's content, Maggie's Cancer Care support the Plant Crèche.

**Longstock Park Landscapes** present garden inspired by 44-mile long footpath, The Test Way, that follows a disused railway line along the river Test, passing through the Leckford Estate. Sustainability and putting nature first are focus points, with reclaimed materials from the old railway line and areas including a wildflower meadow and pond to attract wildlife and insects to the garden.

Master grower **Jon Wheatley** returns, this year with 'The Working Garden', showing how even small plots can be doubly productive, with a home office surrounded with beds of homegrown veg. In addition, automotive sponsor Lexus present a vertical garden feature of plants for wellness.

The **Beautiful Borders** return with a 'Down Your Way' theme inspired by the popular BBC Radio programme, packed with planting and design ideas. 'Best Border 2021' winners, Fairweather's Garden Centre, return with a Wurzel Gummidge inspired design. A further eight Borders include Ann Stow's inspired by the burble of chalk streams, watercress, the steam powered Watercress Line in Alresford



and Christine Mulinder's design which takes Undershaw, the home of Sherlock Holmes author Arthur Conan Doyle, as its inspiration.

Visitors can book into new **Plant Expert Tours** at the Fair, to explore highlights of Beaulieu's Victorian floral and kitchen gardens with experts Lucy Chamberlain and Saul Walker, plus Beaulieu head gardener Kelvin Yapp and his team.

Adding to the atmosphere of this great day out, visitors can explore the **BBC Good Food Market** and street food area, full of food and drink to taste and buy, and be entertained at the bandstand hosted by BBC TV presenter **Chris Bavin**. All tickets include entry to the Beaulieu attraction and, as a celebration of the National Motor Museum's 50th year in 2022, a charming 1928 Austin Twelve Clifton will be dressed for the event, overflowing with plants and flowers.

For more information and tickets visit [www.bbcgardenersworldfair.com](http://www.bbcgardenersworldfair.com)

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#### NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Press accreditation is open. To apply for a pass and for more information on the show, [please click here](#)

About the **BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair**, Beaulieu, Hampshire S042 7ZN:

Friday 29 April	9.30am – 5pm
Saturday 30 April	9.30am – 5pm
Sunday 1 May	9.30 – 5pm (sell off starts at 3pm)

Book tickets: [bbcgardenersworldfair.com](http://bbcgardenersworldfair.com)

1.30pm entry tickets exclude access to Beaulieu's motoring attractions and monorail.

Event Contact: Sarah Sandys-Renton, 07500 762168 / [ssr@immediate.co.uk](mailto:ssr@immediate.co.uk). Details correct at time of print.

In an event is postponed, cancelled or Immediate Live (the trading name of Upper Street Events Ltd & River Street Events Ltd) deem it unsafe to run the event in light of UK Government and Public Health England guidelines regarding Covid-19, visitors will be contacted directly with regards to transferring their booking to a future date or requesting a refund. Refunds exclude the transaction fee.

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