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**15 – 18 June 2023**  
**Birmingham NEC**

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## **Two spectacular show gardens will fly the flag for Cornwall at BBC Gardeners' World Live in June**

**Two spectacular show gardens will be flying the flag for Cornwall at BBC Gardeners' World Live at the NEC Birmingham next month (15-18 June).**

Torpoint based multi award-winning garden designer, Paul Stone, has designed the event's headline show garden, *A Garden Fit for a King*, which marks the Coronation of HM King Charles III. The large-scale walk-through, low carbon footprint design is inspired by the gardens, wildflower meadow and Arboretum at Highgrove, and celebrates His Majesty's passion for gardening and concern for the environment. An atmospheric Bothy cottage made entirely from natural stone and timber will be a particular highlight. Paul Stone, who helped create the acclaimed Eden Project gardens and who has won three Platinum Awards and Best in Show at BBC Gardeners' World Live plus awards at Chelsea and Hampton Court, will be hosting talks about how to recreate elements of the garden at home.

Highgrove's award-winning wildflower meadows, which commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation, will be recognised in the show garden with a carpet of annual and perennial wildflowers and grasses. Classic native woodland trees and some non-native species will also feature. Plants, shrubs and trees will be supplied by royal warrant holders, Hillier Nurseries, based in Hampshire.

Creating the show garden on site is a real team effort, with support from wildlife and wildflower experts, and construction help from Providence Road Homeless Association and Solihull Mind gardening team.

**Paul Stone says:** “The standout feature of *A Garden Fit for a King* will be that everything in it has a connected purpose and design: habitats for sun and shade, dry and damp, trees and wildflowers, all combining for a setting that is good for the soul but also for the living things that support and are supported within it. I have heard HM The King say that a very important thing about Highgrove, about what he does there and what I believe him to be recommending to us all, is to trust in nature. It’s important to me that *A Garden Fit for a King* delivers this message. I hope the combination of all the aspects of the garden will promote the idea of gardening focusing on the use of naturally derived products, and will promote organic, sustainable research and practice.”

Visitors to BBC Gardeners' World Live will find more Cornish talent in The Fontana Garden, a show garden by multi award-winning designer, Kim Parish, from Landscapes of Distinction in Newquay, and sponsored by Derek Bishop. Kim took inspiration from Cornwall’s great gardens and Derek’s own magnificent 14-acre garden near Fowey. The show garden celebrates the diversity of planting opportunities in Cornwall, and highlights include tropical and sub-tropical zones, as befits the temperate Cornish climate, featuring tree ferns, banana plants and a striking wedding cake tree (*Cornus Controversa*), coastal-inspired planting, and a raised pool. Visitors will journey through the garden enjoying several intimate seating areas and ascend to a treetop outside room, whilst listening to the cascading water. At the end of BBC Gardeners' World Live, the Fontana Tranquility Garden will be gifted to Cornwall Hospice Care, a charity providing specialist end-of-life care, where it will provide a haven for patients, their families and staff to find peace, comfort and calm.

**Designer Kim Parish says:** “I am passionate about the power of nature, and the comfort and support it can provide. It has been a longstanding ambition to gift a garden and it is a privilege to be working with Derek and Cornwall Hospice Care to deliver this very special gift.”

**Rachel Poletti-Gadd, Portfolio Director - Gardening Division at Immediate Live, organisers of BBC Gardeners’ World events, said:** “The show gardens at BBC Gardeners’ World Live are always a sight to behold, with stunning new creations by leading designers and landscaping teams each year. In this special Coronation year, Paul Stone’s headline design will be a major attraction and we can’t wait for visitors to see it and to take inspiration from it back to their gardens at home.”

BBC Gardeners’ World Live is a four-day extravaganza of garden inspiration, achievable take-home ideas and wonderful plants. Visitors can enjoy impressive Show Gardens, Beautiful Borders, competition

gardens, and displays by specialist plant growers and nurseries in the Floral Marquee. The crème de la crème of gardening experts will be on stage at the BBC Gardeners' World Live Theatre, with Monty Don, Adam Frost, Carol Klein, Frances Tophill and Alan Titchmarsh in conversation with Nicki Chapman, and sharing practical advice with the BBC *Gardeners' World* Magazine editors.

There are plant and garden shopping opportunities galore, garden kit tips at the Tool Shed demonstration area, and one-to-one gardening advice from plant experts and specialists at the Let's Talk Plants Stage. New for 2023 is Hot Off the Potting Bench, a feature display of new plants and varieties, all vying to win the new Peter Seabrook Award for Best New Plant at BBC Gardeners' World Live. At the House Plant Hub, indoor gardening experts, Ellen Mary, Joe Bagley and friends will be sharing their secrets for happy, healthy house plants.

Tickets for BBC Gardeners' World Live at the NEC Birmingham (15-18 June) are on sale now at [www.bbcgardenersworldlive.com](http://www.bbcgardenersworldlive.com), transaction fee applies. Tickets include entry to the BBC Good Food Show Summer which features demonstrations, workshops and interviews with culinary stars including James Martin, Nadiya Hussain, Michel Roux and Ainsley Harriott, plus street food, and delicious food and drink to taste and buy.

ENDS

#### Notes to editors:

For further information, interviews or pictures, please contact:

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

**BBC Gardeners' World Live, 15 – 18 June NEC Birmingham** | [bbcgardenersworldlive.com](http://bbcgardenersworldlive.com). Event contact: [ssr@immediate.co.uk](mailto:ssr@immediate.co.uk).

Details correct at time of print. BBC Gardeners' World Live is organised and presented by Immediate Live (the trading name of River Street Events Ltd). The Gardeners' World logo is a trademark of BBC. © BBC.

Thursday 16 June                      9am – 6pm  
Friday 17 June                        9am – 6pm  
Saturday 18 June                    9am – 6pm  
Sunday 19 June                      9am – 5pm  
Co-located with the BBC Good Food Show Summer.

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

Information correct at time of writing

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