



## GARDEN PRESS EVENT

### BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair 2024 Highlights



## BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair returns to Beaulieu with fresh, new attractions

### NEW news

- **NEW Show Layout** for the Spring Fair's fourth year at Beaulieu, with a host of exciting new highlights and favourite features that herald the start of the spring gardening season.
- **NEW Hillier Experience** with a stunning, central **woodland-themed show garden**, featuring shade-friendly planting, flowers and bulbs with inspiring plant information throughout, plus 1:1 advice pods and floral retail area. There will be plant sessions by Charles Carr on the BBC Gardeners' World Magazine Stage, as well as a new plant launch on display.
- **NEW Get Growing Stage:** an exciting edibles space, dedicated to the joy of home growing. Hosted by **Ellen Mary** with special guests from the 'GYO' world, including Jason Williams (Cloud Gardener UK), Kim O'Brien, the Caley Bros and chefs from The Pig and Lime Wood hotel.
- **NEW Have-A-Go Workshop Marquee:** daily workshops, designed to boost growing know-how, led by plant experts Lucy Chamberlain, Saul Walker and Rosy Hardy (Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants). Workshops include Peat-Free Propagation, Ten Essentials of Grow Your Own, and Keeping Healthy Houseplants (bookable).
- **NEW Exclusive Supper Club at Lime Wood fine dining experience** (Saturday 4 May): hosted by Adam Frost and Luke Holder, Lime Wood Chef Director, who have collaborated to create a menu featuring locally sourced produce, including fruit and veg from the Lime Wood green house. Guests will experience Lime Wood's laidback luxury whilst enjoying drinks, relaxed conversation with the hosts, and a delicious 3-course meal served at banqueting style tables in The Scullery. Tickets £185pp (covers are extremely limited).

- **NEW Special guests for spring** at the BBC Gardeners' World Magazine Stage: **Sue Kent** (Saturday) and **Rachel de Thame** (Sunday) join the BBC *Gardeners' World* Magazine editors for seasonal gardening advice. **Frances Tophill** will appear on Friday and **Adam Frost** on Saturday.
- **NEW Extended programme of Palace House Victorian Kitchen demonstrations:** BBC TV presenter, Chris Bavin, introduces daily 'field to fork' recipes to try at home as demonstrated in the historical kitchens by chefs from The Pig and Lime Wood.
- **NEW Exclusive VIP and Subscriber Club Lounge** (Subscriber Club Lounge sponsored by the Woodland Trust): featuring additional seating, refreshments and a goodie bag, with daily talks by the BBC *Gardeners' World* Magazine editors, special guests and sponsor, the Woodland Trust.
- **NEW Association of Professional Landscapers' Landscaping and Design Clinic** offering expert face to face garden design advice.
- **NEW Floristry Workshops:** Spring Garden Floristry workshops with award-winning flower farmer, Kim O'Brien (@dahliafarmarama) (bookable).
- **NEW Budding Little Gardeners' Workshops:** free, daily gardening activities for children with Jaqueline Koay, from mulching compost into soil to planting seedlings to grow at home. All National Curriculum linked (Key Stage 1) with take-home worksheets. Plus falconry displays from Beaulieu's resident falconer.

#### Much-loved favourite features

- **30+ specialist plant nurseries and growers** to browse and buy from, with **100+ high-quality retailers** selling garden accessories, décor, tools, equipment and furniture.
- **BBC Gardeners' World Magazine Stage:** the editors bring the magazine to life with spring gardening sessions featuring the TV presenters and special guests with subjects including *Pots of Spring Colour*, *Grow Something Different* and *Easy Edibles*. Plants of the World sessions by stage sponsor, Regent Seven Sea Cruises.
- **Plant Crèche and Wheelbarrow Porter Service** hosted by volunteers from Maggie's Cancer Care in Southampton. Donations very welcome.
- **Showcase Gardens** including: *The Inner Dancer* by Matt Le Gassick - a tribute to the legendary dance choreographer and director, Dame Gillian Lynne; *The Retreat* by Marc Buirski (2 Forks and a Spade) - a woodland-inspired mindfulness garden for schoolchildren and staff; *A Forest of Calm* by Leigh Johnstone (aka The Beardy Gardener) and Lily Clarke, inspired by the New Forest National Park and the mental health benefits of being in nature; and *Garden of Life* by Mountbatten Hampshire Hospice.
- **Beautiful Borders** including: *The Kettle's On...* by Catherine Butcher and Tiffany Passmore, Plants for Design; *A New Leaf* by Alison Firth with BCHA Learn (Bournemouth Churches Housing Association); *Together* by Andrew Williamson and Laura Hall for Maggie's Southampton; *The Synthesis Border* by Pamela Barden (Painted Fern Garden Design), *The Garden Haven* by Ed Bennet & Jacqui Miles (Aura Landscapes); *If I had a border...* by Corrine Frost (Corrine Frost Ltd); *Memory Lane – Grandfather's Garden* by David Long (David Long Garden Design) and 3 seasonal, edible Borders by Jon Wheatley. Beautiful Borders theme: 'Share My Space'.
- **College Garden competition:** budget-friendly designs by students from Merrist Wood, Plumpton and Capel Manor Colleges, with teams mentored by award-winning garden designer, Cherry Carmen (BBC Gardeners' World Live Gold medallist). Competition theme: 'Gardening in a Challenging Climate'.

- **Plant Expert Tours** of Beaulieu's Victorian walled gardens with Lucy Chamberlain, Saul Walker, Tamsin Westhorpe and Beaulieu Head Gardener, Kelvin Yapp. Plus, drop-in Abbey Cloisters herb garden tours with the Beaulieu garden team.
- **Workshops:** Oyster Mushroom Growing with the Caley Brothers (bookable).
- **BBC Good Food Market** sponsored by Lexus, featuring artisan food and drink producers, tasting and sampling, street food vendors and live bandstand entertainment.
- **Access all areas:** Spring Fair tickets include entry to all of Beaulieu's grounds, gardens and attractions, including Palace House and the National Motor Museum. Well-behaved dogs on leads welcome in the outdoor areas.

Tickets on sale at [www.bbcgardenersworldfair.com](http://www.bbcgardenersworldfair.com). Press accreditations open [here](#).

ENDS

#### Notes to editors:

For further information, interviews or pictures, please contact:

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