

Wednesday, 25 August 2021

PRESS RELEASE

BIGGER ISN'T ALWAYS BETTER – THE BEAUTIFUL BORDERS, MAKING THE MOST OF SMALL SPACES

At BBC Gardeners' World Live Special Edition, 26 – 29 August 2021

Gardeners will discover that sometimes smaller spaces can deliver the biggest impact at this year's BBC Gardeners' World Live Special Edition.

Twenty-four garden designers will be using their creativity and seasonal inspiration to bring carefully curated masterpieces to life in a wide range of colourful Beautiful Borders.

Sponsored for the first time by eBay, which will have its own 'Garden Envy' Beautiful Border, the themes range from encouraging wildlife to harnessing the healing power of herbs and will provide endless ideas for visitors to take away.

The Special Edition of BBC Gardeners' World Live will this year run from August 26 to 29 at Birmingham's NEC. This one-off edited version of the anticipated annual event features just the outside areas and Floral Marquee due to the pandemic but will be as big as ever in its inspiration and feel-good factor.

Beautiful Borders include:


Garden Envy
Designed by Kate Mason Garden Design,
sponsored by eBay

Looking into front gardens on walks was a highlight of our very unexpected 18 months as gardening became a huge part of lockdown life. Seeing the hive of activity, even if it was over a fence or on social media, was empowering people with power to heal and practice mindfulness, to regain self-confidence, to feed themselves and to make moves towards a eco-friendlier lifestyle.



This Beautiful Border, sponsored by eBay, is all about making gardening, and its mystical flower power, accessible to everyone. And it's just one click away!

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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

May the Flora be With You
Designed by Agata Macioszek

An ode to flower power; this border acknowledges that flora is a force and source of life and is all around us. The border is divided into dark and light sides by a log, with “lightsabers” in the form of black bamboo and silver birch poles. Two bug hotels in the shape of a daisy represent the archetypal flower. With no manmade materials, the border is a mix of medicinal, edible, house plants, ornamental grasses and flowers. May the flora be with us!



Summer Magic
Designed by Amanda Sanderson

Inspired by The Magic Roundabout and childhood summers playing in fields buzzing with bees and butterflies, plants have been chosen for their scent, wildflower aesthetic, bee-friendly nature and for use as cut flowers. Erigeron karvinskianus soften the border's edges and tree trunk steppingstones lead through an expanse of ox-eye daisies, cosmos and ornamental grass, studded with Macedonian Scabious and stately Verbascums. The focal point is a carousel-shaped support wreathed in clematis and scented Honeysuckle, while brightly coloured Roses and Dahlias mimic the roundabout's horses.




Make do and Mend
Designed by Andy Wright

This border has been designed with sustainability in mind. All of the hard landscaping elements and most of the plants will return back to DMRC Stanford Hall, Loughborough where they will be used for the benefit of the patients undergoing military rehabilitation. Elements of the garden and the build will involve patients undergoing rehabilitation sessions at Stanford Hall. The principle behind the border is that the power of using horticulture and plants is instrumental in physical and mental rehabilitation. All of the plants used in this border have the ability to stimulate the senses - be it touch, taste, smell or even the sound some plants can make.



BBC
Gardeners' World Live
Special Edition

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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

From Hippocrates to Vaccines
Designed by Annette Yiannaki

This garden highlights the powerful influence of plants in medicine, from Hippocrates, 'Father of Medicine', through Medieval herbalism, to today's fight against COVID-19. The planting mixes an evergreen structure with a rich palette of herbaceous planting against a backdrop of slate grey trellis. A heart shaped path signifies the NHS logo. A bench beneath an tree provides a contemplative viewpoint, overlooking a calming, central water feature.



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Explore the Rainbow
Designed by Ashley McElvaney

A celebration of colour; the beautiful and exuberant rainbow of flowers catch the eye and tunnels running across the border encourage interaction with the plants where a hidden world is visible inside. This border is designed for the children of Oasis Academy Fir Vale, where the designer works. The primary school is located in a florally deprived, urban area of Sheffield. Some of the students are growing flowers for the border including Nasturtiums, Cosmos and Sunflowers. Following the competition, the border will have a home in the Early Years Outdoor Area.




Little Star
Designed by Ben Stubbs

This border is a celebration of life and recovery of children and families living with cancer. The border is based on a sand dune coastal environment, illustrating power of flowers and plants that are able to grow and thrive, despite enduring extreme and inhospitable conditions - symbolic of children going through cancer. A wildlife haven and natural defence, the garden is also a reminder that beauty, pleasure and joy can sometimes be found in the most unexpected situations. Plants, sculptures and features have been donated by a community of people raising money for 'Children with Cancer UK', a charity dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer.



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Special Edition

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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

In Momento

Designed by Cath Fletcher

Set in a quiet corner of a small garden, 'In Momento' is a garden of summer exuberance, featuring impulse plant selections to match the gardener's mood. This reflects the power of plants, flowers and gardening to be a fun, indulgent and experimental experience.

Requiring full sun and good drainage, the plants are a mixture of hardy varieties as well as those needing protection or overwintering indoors. The mix of plants are an expression of the fun, creative nature of gardening, and those impulse plant selections, that may not be suitable long term, but are enjoyed for the short term 'In Momento'.



Health and Relaxation Border

Designed by Chris Sellars

Showcasing the power of plants to boost physical and mental health, the design is underpinned by slate landscaping and is complemented by a white flower theme with graceful architectural plants, medicinal herb planters, vertical alpiners, and a water feature. The aim of the design is to create a setting that encourages people to step into the border and relax on the bench.




Blooming Apothecary

Designed by Christine Mulinder

This border celebrates Apothecary by showcasing flowering garden plants that have the power to heal and support wellbeing. Every plant 'bears fruit' - contributing to the ambience, colour and form of the landscape. The flowering plants have a purpose beyond their blooms and acknowledge apothecary an ancient form of dispensing medicines for ailments. Many of these recipes used flowering plants that can still be found in abundance in hedgerows.



BBC
Gardeners' World Live
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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

See You, See Me

Designed by Deborah Hale

This sensory border is designed on behalf of SeeAbility, a charity which provides specialist support, accommodation and eye care help for people with learning disabilities, autism and sight loss. The border challenges the notion we only see with our eyes and invites people, sighted or not, to enjoy the texture, smell, sounds, taste and overall sensory delights that a garden can bring. All plants have been chosen with the senses in mind. Through the centre of this feathery, scented border will be a 'mini-meadow' of Poppies in the shape of an 'S' for SeeAbility / Sight / Sense. Other sensory stimulus includes stone, wood, and sand. The plant guide will be printed in braille and phone apps will help people enjoy the border in its entirety. This authentic garden draws on stories from people with sight loss from all walks of life.



The Florist's Palette

Designed by Fiona Campbell

This border aims to inspire people to have a go at growing their own cutting flowers with underlying messages of hope, love, solidarity and togetherness. Created as a celebration of the way flowers give joy and make people feel happy it honours the wide ranging power of flowers. The designer references the way flower giving has been used throughout history as a way of saying 'I love you', to show support as well as to celebrate or mourn. The main choice of flowers on show will be those the designer received at a time of loss.




Seed to Flower

Designed by Jayne Probyn and Sharon Boss

Oak Tree Farm Rural Project, Staffordshire is the inspiration for this border. Adults with learning difficulties have a caring and nurturing experience as they grow plants and flowers. For some, the project gives a purposeful occupation, whilst for others gaining of new skills, it provides a route to sheltered employment. The flowers offer stimulation of fragrance and colours and bring excitement of seeing things grow and the chance to interact



BBC
Gardeners' World Live
Special Edition

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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

with wildlife. Just like the flowers they produce, the adult learners are given sheltered space to grow and blossom.

The Earth Smiles with Flowers
Designed by Jessica Nicholls

This border will represent a calming passage. Designed to mimic a wildlife friendly rustic cottage garden walkway, boarding a meadow/paddock, with modern cottage garden planting, it will be filled with different textures and colour. A reclaimed water trough provides peacefulness in a moment of reflection, as well as a place for wildlife to revisit. It encourages taking time to breathe and reset in the calmness amongst the rich colour palette, scent, tall spikes of flowers and sounds of wildlife. And it prompts the question - are we really looking after nature or is nature looking after us?



Reflect and Bloom
Designed by Katie Smith

This border celebrates the power of natural spaces and vibrant colours to boost mental health wellbeing. This garden of self-reflection and personal growth is designed to demonstrate how when people look after themselves mentally in an ever changing and busy world, they allow themselves to bloom.




Border on a Budget
Designed by Kitty Chew

This border is inspired modern living situations where people do not have gardens but instead a balcony, courtyard, or a small section of a shared space in a rented property. This border shows the 'flower power' impact in a limited space, without a traditional garden setting. All of the plants will be in containers or raised beds to demonstrate how to achieve a floral impact without a traditional border setting. The hot colour palette is intended to add extra impact in an urban environment, and carefully chosen perennial low maintenance perennial plants will all be sustainable.



BBC
Gardeners' World Live
Special Edition

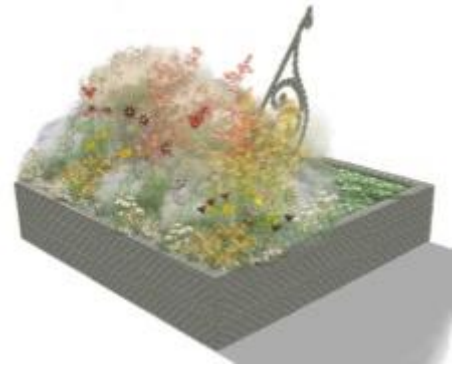
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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

Carpe Diem

Designed by Laura Keating

This border highlights the power of sunlight, with a profusion of fiery foliage and vivid late summer flowers surrounding a sundial, used for centuries to measure time by shadows. Carpe Diem celebrates "seizing the day" just as plants do. Encouraging people to be a positive force for reversing damage, all parts of this border will be reused or recycled. Many people saved up their tin lids for the sundial, showing small actions add up.



The Power of Flowers is Everything

Designed by Lynn Cordall

In this border, all the plants have amazing properties. They don't just look beautiful, they can: heal (physically and emotionally), be eaten, feed bees, butterflies and moths, calm the senses through a blue/purple palette as well as via soft sounds of rustling grasses and buzzing bees. This border aims to show even in a small space, the power of flowers can enclose and provide an escape from a busy world whilst taking care of many species. And it asks the question, what would we all do without flowers?




The Crowning Glory

Designed by Marie-Claire Edwards

Inspired by the rows of colourful seed packets in display racks all over the UK, this border pays homage to the sheer packed energy of the seed. A flower clothed hazel crown, surrounded by stunning blooms, rises up to represent the pinnacle of flower power. All the plants in The Crowning Glory Border have been grown and raised from seed.



BBC
Gardeners' World Live
Special Edition

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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

The Power of Flowers

Phoebe Aubury

This permaculture border celebrates the power of flowers in sustaining life on earth through symbiotic relationships. The planting textures represent the order and chaos of nature and the human connection to this. Water reflects an inextricable place alongside flowers and is a nod to how humans are interdependent species on a biodiverse planet.



Flower Power for the Bees

Nikki Hollier, Border in a Box

A bright and cheerful flower filled space for the bees and pollinators to thrive whilst having a beautiful garden for the owner to enjoy. The potting shed is a useful store for 'grow your own' tools and a brick pathway add to the rustic vibe. Nikki is a previous Platinum Award and Best Border award winner at BBC Gardeners' World Live. Supported by Candide.

FLOWER POWER FOR THE BEES




The Meadow Border

Designed by Tina Worboys

This border takes inspiration from nature and uses the wildflower meadow aesthetic to create a beautiful border. It will show how gardeners can use endangered native wildflowers, mixed with garden favourites, to create a beautifully designed, sustainable haven for wildlife. Acknowledging how not everyone has a swathe of grass to give over to meadow, this border aims to show how you can break the rules and have the best of both worlds.



BBC
Gardeners' World Live
Special Edition

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Dixter Inspired Border
Designed by Victoria Legge

This border is inspired by the exuberant planting of the late Christopher Lloyd's garden at Great Dixter in Sussex. Showing the freedom and fun of the ever-evolving planting used in the garden, plants have been chosen to provide exciting and creative colour combinations which are also beneficial to wildlife. The handmade chestnut hurdles showcase traditional craftsmanship. The designer first visited Great Dixter with her grandparents as a child and later volunteered at the garden, which inspired her career change into horticulture.



As well as the Beautiful Borders, there'll be plenty of expert advice on hand including top tips from the much-loved presenters Monty Don, Carol Klein and Adam Frost of the BBC2 programme, plus Toby Buckland, on the My Gardeners' World Stage.

Shoppers will find an incredible array of beautiful blooms and perfect plants to browse and buy, from quality nurseries in the Floral Marquee and Plant Village. A brand-new House of Plants feature, in the centre of the Floral Marquee, will celebrate the joy of houseplants and how they can bring style to any space.

There will be toe-tapping entertainment at The Bandstand, with plenty of tasty treats to enjoy in the pop-up BBC Good Food Market.

For more information please visit bbcgardenersworldlive.com

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITOR

The BBC Gardeners' World Live Special Edition takes place from Thursday 26 – Sunday 29 August 2021 at Birmingham NEC. Adult tickets £20


Find out more and book tickets at bbcgardenersworldlive.com.
Details correct at time of print.

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BBC
Gardeners' World Live
Special Edition

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26 – 29 August 2021 | Birmingham NEC

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For Covid Pass Status requirements, please see bbcgardenersworldlive.com

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