



Top talent shines at BBC Gardeners' World's first ever Spring Fair as award winners announced

BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair opened its gates today to a sell-out crowd for a fantastic three-day extravaganza in beautiful Beaulieu in Hampshire.

After a morning of assessments, organisers are delighted to announce the Awards.

Beautiful Borders

PLATINUM:

- Patrick's Patch by Fairweather's

GOLD:

- Renovatio by Damien Michel
- Spring is on the Wing by Emma Hearne
- Hope Spring Eternal by Lucy Miller
- The Journey by Maggie's Cancer Support & Sparsholt College

SILVER MERIT:

- 60 Trees for 60 Schools by Fairweather's

The accolade of Best Border was awarded to Patrick's Patch which was praised by judges for its quirkiness and accessible explanations for visitors.

Small Spaces

GOLD:

- Estate Garden by Longstock Park Landscapes
- The Allotment by Jon Wheatley & Terry Porter

SILVER MERIT:

- Nature's Ark by The APL & Rolawn

The accolade of Best Small Space was awarded to Estate Garden by Longstock Park Landscapes. The Judges were impressed by

Floral Awards

- 1st & Best Floral Display Ice Alpines from Bewdley
- 2nd New Forest Hostas & Hemerocallis from Lymington
- 3rd Chrysanthemums Direct from Knutsford

Jim Buttress led the Floral Assessment, with Anita Foy and Richard Barnard assessing the Beautiful Borders and Small Spaces categories.

Jim Buttress said: "It's been a pleasure to be back assessing the exhibitors of this cracking new Fair and the bar has certainly been set very high. It is fantastic to be acknowledging the hard work and quality of these nurseries and to be back out enjoying seeing familiar faces and soaking up the atmosphere in such a stunning setting. I've been enthralled.

Jim continued, "During the pandemic many people found a new passion for gardening - they saw what could be achieved and many people got their children involved. Now we're seeing more and more people enthused about gardening and they want information on how to keep doing it and how to make the most of it.

"The popularity of the Allotment feature, showcasing a great range and quality of growing, gives our visitors something they can take away to try at home. We're all about making gardening more accessible, so people can leave thinking 'I can do a bit of that'."

Horticultural Director, Bob Sweet added: "What a fantastic start to our exciting relationship with Beaulieu, we know the Fair will become a popular fixture in the calendar. In launching a new show, we never cease to be impressed by the innovation and enthusiasm of our exhibitors and designers. It is fantastic to be able to share that passion and dedication with our visitors and see them leave inspired and encouraged to try it at home.

"From what we've seen, our exhibitors' and visitors' enthusiasm will only build from this fantastic beginning."



As a highlight of the show Headline partner, Hillier Nurseries created the Hillier Experience garden at the heart of the show. Built with their usual standard of excellence, the garden is a fantastic feature showcasing the highest quality plants with the Hillier team on hand at four different advice pods offering the very best expertise.

Set against the stunning backdrop of Beaulieu in the New Forest, the BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair, which runs from May 28 to 30, has proved so popular that tickets sold out before the show opened.

The show features Beautiful Borders, Small Spaces, an advice-packed Allotment, *BBC Gardeners' World* experts on the What To Do Now Stage, a stunning four-part Hillier Experience feature, plants to buy from a great selection of nurseries and shopping from gardening exhibitors. Visitors can also enjoy a BBC Good Food Market, toe-tapping entertainment on the bandstand and delicious street food.

For more information please visit bbcgardenersworldfair.com

For images of the winners please download [HERE](#)

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NOTES TO EDITOR

The BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair takes place from Friday 28 – Sunday 30 May 2021 at Beaulieu, New Forest, Hampshire. Find out more at bbcgardenersworldfair.com. Tickets are sold out. Please do not travel to the venue without a valid pre-booked ticket.

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About Hillier:

“To inspire the creation of green living spaces for now and the future”

The company was founded in 1864 by Edwin Hillier and remains a family-run nursery with the fifth generation now actively involved in the family business as it continues to grow. The company employs over 700 staff across its wholesale nursery, amenity trees and 18 Garden Centres and grows over one million plants a year. It is the largest tree grower in the UK.

Hillier is the most successful exhibitor in the history of the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, having been awarded 74 consecutive gold medals.



Over the years, Hillier has been responsible for numerous plant introductions, many of which have become essentials in British gardens and it continues with the tradition of innovation and the introduction of new garden plants in the present day.