

Branch Lines

What makes a beautiful garden perfect? According to Sandy Taylor of Stirling it is a scale model of a locomotive and Sandy, of Scottish Garden Railways, will be bringing his trains and tracks to this year's Show. Sandy has helped hundreds of people create stunning railways in their gardens, despite the obstacles.

"It is not just a question of fitting the railway around existing trees and shrubs but some of my customers have also found hedgehogs hibernating in tunnels and had badgers digging under the tracks."

"This is of course what attracts people to the hobby," he says, "You are running a real railway in a real world."



BBC Scotland Beechgrove Theatre

BBC Scotland's *Beechgrove Garden* team will be taking a break from the garden to be at Gardening Scotland for a preview of the show, and you can watch the special programme at 7.30pm, Friday 4 June on BBC One Scotland.

The BBC Scotland Beechgrove Theatre will also be hosting talks and workshops with Scotland's top TV gardening team across the weekend. In addition, Gardening Scotland visitors will get the chance to put questions to the panel during BBC Radio Scotland's *Beechgrove Potting Shed* with Mark Stephen.

You can take part in a recording of the show on Saturday 5 June (for broadcast on Sunday 13 June), or a live edition on Sunday 6 June



Pod Life

This is International Year of Biodiversity and in The Living Garden, which is sponsored by the Scottish Government, five garden 'pods' will be used to emphasise the very important fact that 'Biodiversity is Life'.

Four of the pods will be devoted to the vital elements of trees, water, soil and plants while the fifth pod will include such items as a nesting box and a hedgehog shelter which all fit the description of 'Homes for Life'.

A full programme of workshops will run throughout each day on themes relating to each of the pods.



Book now and save money

Advance tickets must be ordered by 28th May otherwise tickets can be purchased at the gate.

Children go free: Children under 16 are admitted free of charge to Gardening Scotland 2010. They must be accompanied by a responsible adult. The organisers reserve the right of admission.

No dogs, other than guide dogs will be permitted in the showground.

There are four easy ways to order your advance tickets for Gardening Scotland 2010.

- **By Phone:** 0131 333 0965

- **Via our website:** www.gardeningscotland.com

- **By Fax:** 0131 333 0960

- **Or by Post.**

To order by Post simply complete this form, detach it from your newsletter and mail it to us at **Gardening Scotland 2010,**

2 Ingliston Gardens, Ingliston, Newbridge, Midlothian, EH28 8NB

Please make cheque payable to Gardening Scotland

If you would like to receive our popular updates on Gardening Scotland please tick this box.

Please check you have supplied the information required before detaching the form and posting it to us at the address shown.

Perennial

Gardening Scotland 2010 is delighted to welcome the gardener's charity, Perennial, as its chosen charity.

Perennial does vital work in Scotland, coming to the aid of professional gardeners, green keepers and trained horticulturists who find themselves in difficulties. At the moment the charity is assisting hundreds of people across Scotland with everything from financial problems to health and housing issues and the money it raises at Gardening Scotland will help the charity to continue this good work.

You can assist Perennial at Gardening Scotland, and ease your own burden too, by giving a donation to the charity when you use the Plant Crèche. Instead of carrying heavy purchases around the Show, drop them off here and they will be kept safe until it is time for you to collect them.

We will once again we will be offering a special 'Perennial Ticket' at a cost for £30, which includes lunch in The Quality Hotel, situated next to the entrance of the Show. These tickets are limited and can only be ordered by calling 0131 333 0965.



Take A Green Break

WHY not combine your visit to Gardening Scotland 2010 with a short break in Scotland's beautiful capital?

The Caledonian Hilton on Princes Street is offering special all-in deals that include tickets to the Show with dinner and accommodation in one of Edinburgh's most prestigious hotels.

There's a one-night package priced at £199 (booking code PR13GS) that includes a double room, dinner in the Caledonian Hilton's Chisholms restaurant, full Scottish breakfast and afternoon tea in the Pompadour Restaurant and two one-day tickets for Gardening Scotland.

Alternatively for £299 (booking code PR13G2) you could enjoy all the above and turn your break into a two-night stay.

To book call 0131 222 8888 or visit www.hilton.co.uk/caledonian (Prices quoted also includes VAT and based on Hilton Guest Rooms, supplements apply for Deluxe Rooms and Suites)

Show Information

Gardening Scotland 2010 will take place from 4 - 6 June at The Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh.

Tickets for Friday, 4 June cost £13 if booked before 28 May (or £15 at the gate) and tickets for Saturday, 5 June and Sunday, 6 June cost £11 in advance (or £13 at the gate). Children under 16 go free.

Show opening times are: Friday, 4 June - 10am - 7pm; Saturday, 5 June 10am - 6pm; Sunday, 6 June 10am - 5pm.

Advance ticket holders will be admitted from 9.45pm on all three days.

Parking is available, The Royal Highland Centre charge £3 per car.

No dogs will be admitted except guide dogs.

To book tickets:

Call: 0131 333 0965

Fax: 0131 333 0960

Visit: www.gardeningscotland.com

Email: www.gardeningscotland.com

Travel By Bus...

Gardening Scotland have teamed up with Citylink to offer bus services from all over Scotland direct to the Showground. Coaches will leave from Glasgow, Inverness, Aviemore, Dundee, Ferrytoll, Aberdeen, Pitlochry and Perth. Services must be pre booked and more information is available by visiting www.citylink.co.uk or call 0871 266 3333.

Lothian Buses will again operate a shuttle service to Gardening Scotland. The buses will leave from George Street and Haymarket as well as number 31 bus stops on the way to the Showground. This service will be free for those with senior and concession travel cards. For more information and a timetable please visit www.gardeningscotland.com or call 0131 333 0965.



GARDENING SCOTLAND 2010

4th-6th June
Royal Highland Centre
Ingliston, Edinburgh

www.gardeningscotland.com

Spring 2010

The gardening year is underway but the long winter has taken its toll so if your garden is looking worse for wear then you'll need inspiration and new plants to restore it.

Gardening Scotland 2010 is where you'll find both.

This year's Show will be packed with everything you could possibly need to make your own garden grow.

An impressive roll-call of top growers and nurseries from across the UK will be filling the Dobbies Floral Hall with plants, making this the biggest plant sale in Scotland.

As well as regular exhibitors a number of award-winning nurseries are set to take part this year for the very first time.

Outside Gardening Scotland will boast more sensational Show Gardens than ever before and everywhere you turn you'll find advice and practical workshops designed to solve your gardening problems and make your plants grow better.

More than 400 exhibitors will be packed into The Royal Highland Centre for the duration of the Show, which will run from Friday, 4 June until Sunday, 6 June and for keen gardeners, grow-your-own enthusiasts, new gardeners and anyone in search of a great day out it promises to be an event not to be missed.

Does your garden need a professional makeover?

A team of top Scottish Garden Designers will be on-hand throughout the three days of the show answering questions about working with an expert. If you've got a clear idea of how you'd like your garden to look or if you don't know where to start, a designer can help you turn your dreams into reality or give you a vision of how your garden could be. Visit the Scottish Garden Designers at this year's Gardening Scotland.

Late Opening

NEW opening times will give visitors to the first day of Gardening Scotland 2010 an extra hour to enjoy the Show. Instead of closing at 6pm, the Show will remain open until 7pm on the Friday, making it even more attractive to afternoon visitors.

As always one of the highlights on the Sunday will be the Great Sell Off that will commence at 4pm and last for one hour. This is when exhibitors sell off surplus stock and it is a great time to pick up bargains, from individual plants to whole show gardens.





Mini Plots Flourish

It is one of the most popular features of the Show. The Pallet Garden Challenge, organised by the Scottish Gardeners Forum and sponsored by Dobbies, attracts dozens of entries from schools and gardening clubs across Scotland.

Each of the tiny gardens created for the Show is a miniature world all of its own and despite being just one square metre in size some epic themes are worked out in grass, vegetables and flowers.

Amongst those taking part this year will be Garnetbank Primary School in the heart of Glasgow and Easdale School from Seil Island near Oban.



New Hopetoun Gardens' Lesley Watson

Show Stoppers

If it is inspiration you are seeking then the Show Gardens are where you'll find it. This year they range from cutting-edge design to romantic Victorian fantasy. What all the Show Gardens will have in common however is that they will be created to the highest of standards by the cream of Scotland's garden designers.

In the 'Reinforcing Nature' garden by award-winning landscaper Water Gems in association with Secret Gardens, the heart of the garden will be a huge naturalistic pond with walkways and a shelter created out of Rebar, the steel rods used for reinforcing construction projects. You can follow the progress of the Water Gems garden at www.reinforcingnature.org



Water Gems winning garden

'Treasures in an Avant Garden' is the theme for New Hopetoun Gardens' lush plantings. The garden will act as a showcase for the Avant Garden design festival, which is held at the garden centre of Newton Village on an annual basis.

Garden designer Kenny Thompson of Naturally Inspired Gardens will be working with charity Enable on a design based on interlocking squares with areas of shade and brighter seating areas to represent how the lives of people with learning disabilities can be changed for the better.

Landscape sculptor Nick Denney will be working with Dug MacLeod of Stone, Wood, Water, Light to challenge perceptions about tensions between the manmade and natural worlds while Var Scotica, last year's winner of the 'Best Show Garden' award will return with 'A Secret Garden' which will be Victorian in character and which will have formal and hidden areas.

Property Management Company Ross & Liddell will recreate the front garden of an apartment block while the Dry Stone Walling Association have taken the theme of 'Walls of Scotland' and linked the different stones found in Scotland to the traditional regimental recruiting areas of the Scottish battalions. Once Gardening Scotland is over this garden will be rebuilt at Erskine Hospital's new garden centre on the banks of the river Clyde near Bishopton.

New for 2010 are Courtyard Gardens. They may be small but what they lack in size they

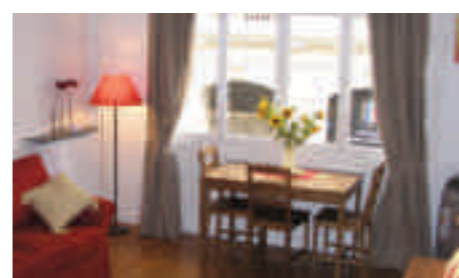
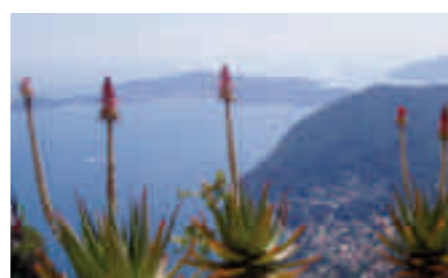
make up for in ingenuity. Look out for the greenhouse in the 'Green Shoots of Recovery' garden. This was built from scratch by users of the Acorn Project run by NHS Glasgow, which provides horticultural therapy to people with mental health problems and learning disabilities.

Scotland's top horticultural colleges are where some of the best new talent can be found and at Gardening Scotland 2010 the next generation of garden designers will be creating inspirational College Gardens full of great ideas and beautiful plants.

Amongst the institutions taking part will be the Scottish Agricultural College in Edinburgh and Ayr; Borders College from Newtown St Boswells; Barony College from Dumfries and Elmwood College from Cupar. Look out for Carol Shaw's ideas on how to make the most out of unused space with her 'Reclaim the Garden' design and Sarah Curtis's 'Green Up' garden, designed with bees in mind, will include a vertical wall of white clover.

Meanwhile Amber Goudy's plans for a 'Sustainable Highland Garden' sponsored by Strutt & Parker will be seen first at The Chelsea Flower Show, and on TV as part of a documentary, before heading back home for Gardening Scotland 2010.

By contrast Barony College will be looking to the east for inspiration for their 'Autumn Gold' garden, which will feature Japanese themes.



Explore the gardens of the French Riviera

If you are interested in visiting gardens in warmer climes, Chez JJ, an apartment in Nice is a great base for the French Riviera gardens. From the cliff top exotic garden above Eze village with over 400 plants and cacti to the botanical gardens in Nice with seven hectares of flowers, plants and a huge hot house with tropical birds and blooms, there is a huge variety to choose from.

Just outside Nice on Cap Ferrat is Villa Rothschild. This amazing Belle Epoque villa has formal gardens designed in seven different styles, including Spanish, Florentine, Provençal and Oriental. The Princess Grace Rose Garden in Monaco is also worth a visit.

Chez JJ apartment is in the most upmarket area of central Nice and is available all year round. On the first floor of a residential building, this spacious studio apartment has parquet floors, high ceilings and is newly decorated. Rental rates are £295 - £550 per week. For further information about Chez JJ and the gardens of the French Riviera please see www.chezjj.co.uk, email chezjj@hotmail.co.uk or call Julie on 07734 932 578.

Plant Hunters' Paradise

Every year a very long list of top nurseries and growers from across the UK fill The Dobbies Floral Hall with stunning flowers. Well this year that list is set to grow with the news that Gardening Scotland 2010 will feature more floral exhibitors than ever before, including some with international reputations.

If you are looking to indulge a passion for gorgeous plants then you won't want to miss this year's Show because amongst the new exhibitors will be renowned plant hunters Bleddyn and Sue Wynn-Jones from Crug Farm Plants.

When they are not working in their nursery in Wales, Sue and Bleddyn are usually to be found in some of the most distant parts of the world, including North Vietnam, Nepal and the Philippines seeking out the next plant sensations.

World of Ferns, also from north Wales, is the UK's leading specialist fern nursery selling

Fun and games in The Big Back Garden

Gardens aren't just for growing food and flowers; they are great places for kids to run around in and whole families to enjoy their leisure hours. In The Big Back Garden we celebrate all the other things you can do in your garden besides gardening. Look out this year for some very special games and activities that the whole family can enjoy together.

People's Choice Award

Last year the first ever Sunday Post People's Choice Award was won by Beautiful Perth with their outstanding exhibit, which featured a stag leaping over a dry stone wall.

The award-winning display had been created by teenagers on a rural horticultural skills training programme. This year visitors on the opening day of the Show will once again get their chance to vote for their favourite exhibit in The Dobbies Floral Hall.

tropical and hardy species from around the world. They've won gold medals at almost every other major Show in the UK and this year for the first time they'll be bringing some of their rare and unusual plants to Gardening Scotland.

Holmes Farm Nursery is run by Brian Young who made his name as a textile designer before his interest in plants led him to set up his own nursery. He'll be selling stunning perennials including irises.

Other leading nurseries that will be taking part for the first time include Bell Nursery from Kirriemuir while Rumbling Bridge Nursery will be collaborating with Hawthorn Castings on a major exhibit and Quercus Garden Plants from Fife will also be exhibiting in tandem with Scotland's Gardens Scheme.

Meanwhile Gardening Scotland will be welcoming back many regular exhibitors including Fir Tree Pelargoniums, Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants, North of England Bonsai, Cairnsmore Nursery who specialise in Heucheras, Alpines and Primulas and Harts Nursery with their wonderful lilies.

Pete free? Not in The Earthy Green Garden

From recycled sheds to grow-your-own plots and even chickens, the Earthy Green Garden is for gardeners who like to get their hands dirty. Run by Earthy Foods & Goods, the organic food market based in Edinburgh, it will also be home over the three days of the show to STV's 'The Hour' gardener, Pete Jackson.

Pete says: "We will be working with a school to create a Garden of the Future at The Show".



Floral Fantasies Come To Life

Edinburgh City Council is set to stun visitors to Gardening Scotland 2010 with a display of beautiful flowers and a large-scale model Spitfire, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

It is just one of the stunning features that will dominate the Dobbies Floral Hall. Other displays will be created by Fife Council to mark Fife 2010 and by Glasgow City Council as well as by Murabilia, one of Italy's leading gardening shows, who will be bringing a taste of Tuscany to Edinburgh, in association with Primo Landscaping and Oatridge College.

Kevock Plants, four times winners of the 'Best Floral Exhibit' award will also be creating a display and there will be more floral fireworks from Binny Plants and Taylors Clematis.



The Dobbies Floral Hall

SCOTLAND'S national gardening show has once again secured sponsorship from one of the UK's leading garden centres.

Dobbies Garden Centres will sponsor the Floral Hall, continuing a relationship that has existed since Gardening Scotland was launched 11 years ago.

Donald Wemyss, chairman Gardening Scotland, says: "We are delighted that Dobbies Garden Centres will once again be sponsoring the Floral Hall. This is the very heart of Gardening Scotland and it is dedicated to horticultural excellence. It is therefore fitting that Dobbies, which is a Scottish company with a very long history of providing gardeners with the very best in plants and equipment, should have been involved with it for such a long time.



Flowers...and more

Gardening Scotland is an important date on the calendar for both the Scottish Association of Flower Arrangement Societies and the Scottish Women's Rural Institute.

While SAFAS clubs from across the country compete against each other by creating stunning floral displays, the SWRI also hosts a Terracotta Pot competition for its members at the Show. Together these groups represent some of the best gardeners and flower arrangers in Scotland and both make a fantastic contribution to the Show.

However Gardening Scotland isn't just about flowers, there's a lot more going on too, which is what helps to make it such a great day out.

The Show also boasts a thriving Craft Marquee where artists and craftsmen and women come to sell beautiful handmade artworks and clothes.

Together the Food Fayre and the International Village celebrate some of the best in quality produce from home and abroad while Wendy Barrie of The Scottish Food Guide will once again be at the helm in the Gardening Scotland Kitchen demonstrating how to make the most of some of the best ingredients that Scotland has to offer.

