



# 2026 RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

## Balcony and Container Gardens Exhibitor List

Please note: All information is provided by exhibitors and is subject to change. For images and further information including full planting lists, please contact [showspr@rhs.org.uk](mailto:showspr@rhs.org.uk)

### **Balcony Gardens**

#### **1) *A Little Garden of Shared Knowledge sponsored by Viking***

Sponsor: Viking  
Designer: Katerina Kantalis  
Contractor: Phil Sutton Landscapes Ltd

*Media Contact: Carys Bedford*  
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*A Little Garden of Shared Knowledge* celebrates the joy of different generations coming together and swapping stories, advice and life lessons – as well as gardening tips. The garden is designed around the idea that even the smallest spaces can hold the same richness, creativity, and sense of discovery as larger spaces.



The garden reflects the lives of a well-travelled, creative couple who have downsized to the city, but remain deeply connected to horticulture. Serving as both a private sanctuary and a welcoming space for friends and family, it offers an environment where gardening techniques, travel experiences, and family traditions are shared.

Drawing on their love of travel, art and nature, the garden combines practical food growing with aesthetic beauty – showing how herbs, vegetables, and flowers can coexist harmoniously in a compact space. With the seating area framed by a pergola and surrounded by layers of plants, visitors will find an inviting space that encourages quiet reflection or conversation amongst the greenery.

### **Planting/Colour Scheme**

The planting design highlights both ornamental and edible plants, chosen for their beauty, productivity, and adaptability in a small space. The garden will feature compact vegetables, such as *Cucumis sativus* 'Amadora', *Solanum melongena* 'Pinstripe', *Solanum lycopersicum*

'Patio Plum' and *Amaranthus* 'Passion'. As well as herbs like thyme, basil, and mint – all selected for their multi-sensory appeal of scent, flavour, and texture.

The planting will include dwarf varieties which offer practical advantages for small space growing and will focus on the inclusion of heirloom plants that have been passed down through generations. The resilience of these heirloom plants links to traditional growing practices and biodiversity preservation.

The planting palette will combine varying tones of green with warm vibrant colours coming through in the edible fruiting.

## 2) **Fettercairn: The Angels' Share**

Sponsor: Fettercairn Whisky  
Designer: May Starey

*Media Contact: Andrew Sanders*  
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The garden is inspired by the whisky aging process and the 'angels' share,' or the portion of spirit that evaporates during aging.

The garden is designed for a young couple who enjoy sharing their space with friends and family but also enjoy time for quiet contemplation in nature. This is reflected through the use of modular and adaptable furniture.

The garden embraces the balance between people, craft and nature. The space combines Scottish vernacular references with indigenous pollinators, mimicking elements from Fettercairn Distillery's home in the Cairngorms, often referred to as 'The Garden of Scotland'.



### Planting/Colour Scheme

The plants have been chosen to attract birds and pollinators, raising awareness of these vital creatures and demonstrating the idea that the garden can be shared with more than human beings. The Kentish Moth, which currently only lives in the Cairngorm area of Scotland, is one such example. The plants will include *Betula nana*, *Betula pendula* and yellow flag iris. In addition, the planting scheme moves from grassland to woodland, which reflects Fettercairn Whisky's action of planting 13,000 oak trees on the distillery estate.

The planting palette is inspired by the Angel's Share tartan colour, and this will be mirrored throughout the space.

### 3) *Hedgerow in the Sky – Tech Mahindra*

Sponsor: Tech Mahindra  
Designers: Sarah Mayfield & Monika Greenhough  
Contractor: Cobham Court Landscaping

*Media Contact: Sarah Mayfield*

*Media Contact Details: 07795 466481 / [mrs.sarahmayfield@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.sarahmayfield@gmail.com)*

*The Hedgerow in the Sky - Tech Mahindra* garden is inspired by the British hedgerow. The garden will translate the character and biodiversity found in British hedgerows into a contemporary city space. Visitors will see layered planting that mimics the structure of the hedgerow with a mix of native trees and shrubs, reflecting its natural diversity.



The garden will feature a striking dark backdrop crafted using the traditional Japanese technique, Shou Sugi Ban. This gives the garden depth and contrast. In addition, delicate pressed-flower artwork celebrates the beauty and fragility of wildflowers.

Comfortable seating has been added to encourage visitors to take a moment of quiet reflection, and a gentle water feature introduces movement and tranquillity – transforming the balcony into a small urban sanctuary. The space is a hopeful reminder that small spaces, when designed thoughtfully, can create a meaningful impact.

#### Planting/Colour Scheme

The planting follows a predominantly green colour scheme but does contain soft touches of white, lavender and burgundy.

The garden features a selection of pollinator friendly plants that thrive in containers and are ideal for balconies. Many are easy to grow, such as *Fragaria vesca*, while others such as *Thymus serpyllum*, *Saxifraga umbrosa* and *Heuchera* ‘Green Spice’ are naturally low maintenance. The garden will also feature a wildflower hanging planter which will contain species such as *Geranium pyrenaicum*, *Knautia dipsacifolia* and *Dianthus armeria*.

### 4) *The Transient Garden*

Sponsor: Garden Club London  
Designer: Rebecca Lloyd Jones  
Contractor: Garden Club London

*Media Contact: Lauren Ailish-Skinner*

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*The Transient Garden* is inspired by the modern living situation and its increasingly temporary nature. Parallels are drawn with ephemeral qualities of nature such as shifting light, changing seasons, and the way nature continually evolves and renews itself. The garden will promote a sustainable approach to gardening where features are relocated rather than discarded when it is time to move on.



The garden demonstrates practical and achievable ideas that can be used to create a relaxing balcony garden within a compact space. It offers visitors a calm and functional retreat, which demonstrates how small and impermanent spaces can still provide a sense of connection to the natural world and improve visitors' wellbeing.

*The Transient Garden* showcases realistic methods of space saving that maximise both comfort and greenery. Visitors will find container planting, folding furniture, and vertical structures within the space. All elements of the garden are modular, lightweight, and designed to be moved by just two people.

#### Planting/Colour Scheme

The garden's planting palette was chosen to compliment the greys and blues most commonly seen from a city balcony and will consist of oranges, purples and white.

Plants have been selected with resilience to urban climates in mind, choosing those that thrive in balcony containers and require minimal maintenance. The constraints imposed by the containers and the microclimate conditions restrict the growth of more vigorous species, such as *Panicum* and *Helianthemum*. This will enable self-seeding plants like *Eschscholzia* and *Verbena* to fill any gaps effectively.

#### **5) Tales from the Riverbank Garden sponsored by Kennedys' Independent Property Agents**

Sponsor: Kennedys' Independent Property Agents  
Designers: Susie Kennedy and Kate Henning  
Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

*Media Contact: Susie Kennedy*

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*Tales from the Riverbank Garden* sponsored by Kennedys' Independent Property Agents is set on the deck of a houseboat which is moored on the River Thames. The garden showcases an alternative way of life that is often unseen and misunderstood. Visitors will appreciate that even the smallest homes, can still have a fully functioning garden that blends seamlessly with the natural environment of the riverbanks.



The balcony garden hopes to create a space where visitors can relax and enjoy the beautiful views whilst still maintaining a sense of privacy. Features will include a dipping tank, which will collect rainwater and be used to irrigate pots. The space will also include space saving furniture retaining room for an outside entertaining and cooking area. In addition, the roof of the boat will be utilised for growing edible plants.

The era of riverside dwelling is experiencing a revival as more people seek a simpler way of living, more connected to their environment and where they can be part of a community that work together to preserve the integrity of the riverbanks. Boat dwellers are custodians of the wildlife that live on and in the rivers, as well as the animal, birds and plants found along the riverbank. In addition, the garden will raise awareness of The Swan Sanctuary and emphasise the need to protect rivers from increased pollution.

### Planting/Colour Scheme

The aquatic plants will be native and in line with those that naturally occur along the riverbed. In addition, the planting is designed to be suitable for container growing allowing visitors to be inspired by edible and aquatic plants that can be grown even with limited space.

The planting palette follows the typical colour scheme found on the riverbanks. Pinks, yellow and whites are such examples. Visitors will also see pops of seasonal colours.

### Container Gardens

#### **6) *The Sightsavers Garden: we start with sight but we don't stop there***

Sponsor: Sightsavers in partnership with Belonging Forum  
Designers: Peter Karn, Janice Molyneux and Sarah Fisher  
Contractor: Castle Landscapes

*Media Contact: Jenny Murray-Cox*  
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*Sightsavers Garden: we start with sight but we don't stop there* is a sensory sanctuary where thoughtful and innovative design will invite visitors to see how inclusion, accessibility and belonging benefits everyone. The garden transforms an intimate urban space to engage all five senses.



The garden is designed for urban communities and for individuals who are seeking a moment of calm and a connection with nature. The garden demonstrates how underused urban spaces can be reclaimed to benefit both people and the natural environment.

Natural materials, multi-sensory planting and a central wheelchair turning circle will welcome all visitors, inviting them to slow down, pause and connect, and imagine a more inclusive, sustainable world. Planters and walls will be built from interlocking three-hole bricks and personalised by artists, staff and supporters. This will symbolise growth, resilience, and collective strength. At the heart of the garden is a corten-steel water halo which gathers rain and releases it into a cooling pool, creating a quiet and calm space.

#### Planting/Colour Scheme

The planting follows a bold colour scheme which uses contrasting colour to make the garden visually striking and easier to navigate. The planting is designed to create a rich and immersive experience that engages all the senses while remaining visually cohesive.

### **7) Alzheimer's Society: Microbes and Minds Garden**

Sponsor: Alzheimer's Society  
Designers: Tina Worboys  
Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

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The *Alzheimer's Society: Microbes and Minds Garden* is inspired by rural orchards found in Worcestershire and Herefordshire and highlights the ancient story of apple cider vinegar and its gut health benefits. The aim of the garden is to draw attention to the complexities of illnesses such as dementia and the need for more research to truly end the devastation it causes. The space will encourage visitors to explore the evidence found around the link between gut microbiome and brain health.



The garden was designed with a female professional in mind. She lives by herself in

London, although was born on the Worcestershire/Herefordshire border. The garden blends her love of contemporary art, design and sculptures with magical memories of growing up on a cider farm amongst sprawling orchards, abundant hedgerows and wildflowers. Wellness is a big part of her life, and she is fascinated by the gut microbiome and its numerous health benefits. She is particularly interested in its links to dementia as her family has been personally impacted by the illness.

Those impacted by dementia may find it all consuming, and this garden will aim to provide a sanctuary where visitors can reflect and connect with nature. At the heart of the garden stands an apple tree which represents 'The Mother'. 'The Mother' is the term given to the naturally occurring culture of bacteria that is formed during the fermentation process when producing apple cider vinegar. The live cultures are often stored in amber coloured glass bottles and visitors will see this colour reflected in a curved sculpture. The sculpture will be built around 'The Mother' as if it protecting the tree and will extend to surround an intimate seating area thus protecting the sitter - a metaphor for the product's wellness benefits.

### Planting/Colour Scheme

The garden's planting palette is inspired by nature and tailored to compliment the trees; visitors will also see the colour of the amber glass utilised within the space.

The planting aesthetic is relaxed and naturalistic. Hard landscaping is mixed with traditional and contemporary textures, with the entire design bridging old and new, rural and urban, and edible and ornamental. A key focus within the garden is the tree's health and therefore planting has been chosen to deter harmful insects and attract pollinators. The garden will feature native wildflowers, which are familiar with the climate, mixed among drought tolerant and non-native species.

## **8) *The Whittard of Chelsea Garden***

Sponsor: Whittard of Chelsea

Designers: Ollie Pike

Contractor: Peak Landscapes and Yorkshire Water Features

*Media Contact: Ollie Pike*

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In celebration of 140 years of the simple pleasure of enjoying a Whittard of Chelsea cup of tea, *The Whittard of Chelsea Garden* will transform a small courtyard into a calming retreat. The design draws on elements of nature and tea to create the perfect sanctuary for visitors to pause, reflect and savour the moment.



The garden is inspired by the small courtyards attached to many London townhouses and visitors are encouraged to imagine the courtyard is owned by an eccentric tea enthusiast. An eclectic mix of containers, each with a colourful patina, have been reclaimed and repurposed

into beautiful planters. Together these containers create a cosy seating area which is enclosed by nature.

The act of pouring tea holds a deep significance for many cultures and is even considered an art form. The sound of and beauty in pouring a cup of tea has served as inspiration for the garden's design. A network of copper pipes will wind through the space and mimic the ritual by creating streams of water which adds to the garden's serene and calming atmosphere.

### Planting/Colour Scheme

Rich in fragrance and colour, the planting features many of the ingredients used in Whittard's infusions and is inspired by the innovative tea blends that Whittard of Chelsea sell. Most of the plants included in the garden can be used to make tea, for example, *Camellia sinensis* which is commonly used for green and black teas across the globe. In addition, more unusual plants will be included such as *Anthriscus*, *Boehmeria* and *Betula*.

## **9) The Seasalt Painted Garden**

Designers: Lynn James  
Contractor: Cobham Court Landscaping

*Media Contact: Lynn James*  
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The garden draws inspiration from the influential mid-century modernist artists who became collectively known as the St Ives School. The group challenged convention and broke away from the dominance of traditional realism in art, to embrace a new direction that became known as nature-based abstraction. In doing this they transformed a small fishing village in the far west of Cornwall into an internationally recognised centre of modern art that flourished throughout the 1950s and 60s. The garden celebrates this legacy of innovation, creativity and bold experimentation by reimagining the spirit of the St Ives School in a contemporary setting.



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The garden is designed to be used by an artist for relaxation and as inspiration for creative work. The garden is attached to the artist's studio and forms part of their home which is located in a vibrant and traditional town in West Cornwall.

The garden brings a fresh and contemporary feel and boldly defies current horticultural trends with its vibrant and colourful design. Blending the old with the new, it showcases authentic and inventive materials such as filing cabinets reimagined as striking planters, a newly commissioned sculpture created exclusively for the show, and handmade clay pavers crafted

by pottery established by Bernard Leach. The fusion of heritage, creativity and innovation creates a space that both honours the past and looks to the future of garden design.

### Planting/Colour Scheme

The planting palette will consist of bright and vibrant colours. Statement plants include fig trees, aloe vera and *Angelica archangelica*. In addition, the garden will follow the popular trend of using 'see through' plants, where flowers appear to float on thin wiry stems above other plants.

### **10) Flood Re: Contain the Rain Garden**

Sponsor: Flood Re  
Designers: John Howlett  
Contractor: Acacia Gardens

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The *Flood Re' Think Paradise Garden* offers an escape from busy city life for those who have an environmental conscience and a dream of exploring, traveling and seeking peace within a small urban space.

The garden uses a series of hexagonal planters that maximise the space allowing for a variety of heights and layouts. It also incorporates water management to mitigate flood risk.

The garden demonstrates that through quality design, well thought out planting and story telling you can achieve an immersive tranquil garden even in the smallest of spaces.



### Planting/Colour Scheme

The lush planting will keep the garden cool in hotter temperatures. In addition, the planting, use of permeable surfaces and water storage will help manage excess rainwater.