



2026 RHS SANDRINGHAM FLOWER SHOW SHOW FEATURES AND FEATURE GARDEN EXHIBITORS

Please note: All information is provided by exhibitors and is subject to change. For images and further information, please contact showspr@rhs.org.uk

Feature Garden

1) RHS Royal Legacy Garden

Designer: Catherine MacDonald

Contractor: Gadd Brothers Trees & Landscapes

Media Contact: RHS Press Office

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The *RHS Royal Legacy Garden* celebrates the horticultural legacy of His Majesty King Charles III, his pioneering approach to the environment and his championing of the skills of gardeners. Patron of the RHS, the King is a passionate and hands-on gardener, so the *RHS Royal Legacy Garden* will reflect this lifelong love of gardening with plant choices that reflect his preferences and echo some of the many beautiful green spaces he has created.



Taking inspiration from fractals and other regular repeating patterns found in nature, the garden includes sinuous paths leading visitors through the space with a paving design that echoes patterns created by tree canopy 'shyness'. A biodiverse mix of His Majesty's preferred trees and flowering plants have been selected for their bold colours, interesting shapes and benefits for biodiversity.

The garden has been designed to form part of the larger ornamental gardens at Sandringham for the enjoyment of His Majesty and the many thousands of visitors to the gardens each year.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The King requested a bold, colourful planting palette, designed to draw attention and provide a joyful pause in what will be a busy showground. Plants have been selected for their form and colour, creating a bejewelled mix within a lush background of green.

Key plants include *Koelreuteria paniculata*, a decorative tree chosen for its beautiful large panicles of small, yellow flowers, loved by bees, which appear in midsummer among the divided foliage. *Arbutus unedo* is a climate-resilient small evergreen that produces white urn-shaped flowers in spring, followed by strawberry-like red fruits that often persist through winter. A British native, *Taxus baccata* has also been included and is ideal for creating topiary shapes; its needle-like evergreen leaves are perfect for clipping. Larger specimens may also produce red berries in autumn which provide food for birds and other garden wildlife.

2) RHS Pollywiggle Garden

Designer: Joe and Laura Carey
Contractor: Neil Askew Landscapes

Media Contact: RHS Press Office
Media Contact Details: showspr@rhs.org.uk

Visitors can expect a naturalistic, wildlife-friendly garden designed to celebrate the “pollywiggle,” a Norfolk word meaning tadpole, and other froggy friends. Inspired by the local landscape and the need for more wetland areas in all UK gardens big and small, the garden aims to help visitors make frogs and toads frequent and much-loved garden guests.



The space shows how domestic gardens can welcome amphibians without needing to appear untidy or overly wild. Lush planting surrounds a beautifully naturalistic pond, creating shelter and food for tadpoles, frogs, and newts while maintaining an intentional, designed aesthetic. A thoughtfully crafted boardwalk guides visitors through areas of wet and boggy ground, demonstrating how water can be embraced as an asset rather than avoided. Clever use of salvaged materials adds texture, sustainability, and character, blending seamlessly into the landscape.

The garden reflects a deeply personal inspiration: the designers’ children have delighted in spotting frogs and building small habitat “hotels” for them.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The garden will be punctuated with the bright pinks of *Lythrum salicaria* 'Blush', *Anemone* 'Pamina' and *Astilbe chinensis* var. *pumila*. Acid green grasses like *Sesleria autumnalis* will provide a zingy backdrop for the vibrant colour palette from perennial planting of bright pinks and lemon yellows creating a wildlife friendly non-native meadow. *Betula nigra*, *Salix caprea* and *Salix fragilis* have been chosen because they are moisture loving trees suitable for planting in a moist area near a pond that will attract amphibians.

Moisture loving grasses and perennials like *Deschampsia cespitosa* and *Thalictrum* border the water providing cover for frogs, toads and newts as they come and go. *Carex divulsa* is a fantastic grass that can adapt to so many conditions. It is suitable for shade or sun, moist or well-drained soil. Its semi evergreen foliage provides year-round interest.

3) RHS Crafted from Nature Garden

Designer: Laura Strand and Sam Stark-Kemp
Contractor: Norfolk County Landscapes

Media Contact: RHS Press Office
Media Contact Details: showspr@rhs.org.uk

Rooted in the landscapes, materials and craftsmanship of Norfolk, the *RHS Crafted from Nature Garden* celebrates the creativity and natural beauty of the county. Visitors can expect to see an immersive, meadow-inspired space filled with soft, naturalistic planting, rich textures and handcrafted features that reflect Norfolk's distinctive character.



Norfolk water reed, iconic to the Norfolk Broads and commonly used for thatching, is reimagined by a local master thatcher as a contemporary tactile wall providing natural screening and valuable wildlife habitat. At the heart of the garden stands a hand-carved York stone sculpture by Norfolk master stone carver Teucer Wilson, inspired by the elegant forms of reeds found across the county's waterways and marshes. Rusted steel boundaries and screens nod to the county's agricultural heritage.

The designers were inspired by the idea of creating a garden with a strong sense of place, where nature, sustainability and craftsmanship are closely connected, demonstrating how materials and craft can inform biodiverse, sustainable garden design for the future.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The colours scheme is muted with soft pinks and pale yellows with pops of reddish purple. Open airy white flowers lift the scheme and grasses provide softness, atmosphere and movement. The planting is reminiscent of a wild grassy meadow with trees from the hedgerows

Trees in the garden reference plants commonly found in local hedgerows, while *Silene maritima*, *Daucus carota* and *Centranthus ruber alba* are inspired by species found growing along Norfolk's coastline. Blackcurrants and strawberries are included as a nod to the county's fruit-growing heritage. Together, the planting palette creates a strong sense of place, reflecting the character and natural beauty of Norfolk.

Show Features

1) 'Future Wood' By Barcham Trees

Exhibitor: Barcham Trees PLC
Designer: Thomas Hoblyn

Media Contact: Claire Lees
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'Future Wood' By *Barcham Trees* takes its inspiration from the landscape beneath our feet. Using local Carrstone to create a sand and rock garden, the design embraces the kind of free-draining, drought-tolerant conditions that climate projections tell us are increasingly inevitable across much of Britain - longer dry spells, unpredictable rainfall, and summers that test even established plantings.



Set against this elemental backdrop, a curated selection of climate-resilient trees and plants demonstrates that forward-thinking species choice need not mean sacrificing beauty. Working alongside horticultural adviser Tony Kirkham MBE VMH, former Head of the Arboretum at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Hoblyn & White has drawn on the latest climate science to develop a planting palette that is both botanically considered and genuinely inspiring. The message is an urgent one. As native species come under increasing pressure, now is the time for gardeners, designers and the industry as a whole to ask hard questions about what we choose to plant and why.

2) RHS Head Gardeners

Designer: Dave Green Gardens Ltd

Media Contact: Dave Green

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Inspired by the Head Gardeners from several RHS Partner Gardens this display represents gardens stretching from Cornwall to Cumbria and from Kent to Somerset. Together, they showcase the remarkable diversity of British horticulture, caring for landscapes that range from historic castle grounds and woodland gardens to world-renowned plant collections and contemporary botanic gardens.



More than caretakers of beautiful places, Head Gardeners are leaders, problem-solvers, innovators and storytellers. They combine horticultural expertise with creativity, ecological awareness and years of dedication to shape and sustain gardens that inspire, educate and delight millions of visitors every year.

Throughout the display visitors will discover the stories of the Head Gardeners themselves - their career journeys, inspirations, achievements, favourite gardening advice and hopes for the future of British gardening.

3) RHS Bringing Nature Home

Designer: RHS Science & Collections and Dave Green Gardens

Media Contact: RHS Press Office

Media Contact Details: showspr@rhs.org.uk

The *RHS Bringing Nature Home* exhibit invites gardeners to enjoy, engage with and enhance their garden habitats for biodiversity. Exploring the most up-to-date sustainable gardening research and advice, interactive displays will encourage visitors to record twelve RHS wildlife wonder plants on a digital map and explore the latest innovations on the award winning RHS Grow app.



Interpretation provides evidence-based practical advice on each planting area. By choosing plants suitable for your unique garden, that are both great for wildlife and resilient, will result in a beautiful, healthy garden habitat – helping to truly bring nature home.

4) The Girlguiding Journey

Designer: Dominique Rudd

Media Contact: Ruby Laura Goold

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The Girlguiding Journey illustrates the progression of a Girl Guide, from the youngest Rainbows earning their Bee Rescuers badge amidst a vibrant, bee-friendly wildflower meadow, to Brownies working on their Grow Your Own badge at a dedicated planting workstation. Linking these sections is a special seating area engraved with the Girlguiding Promise, signifying the core values and commitment that unites members across all age groups.



Native drought-tolerant planting and a hibernaculum for biodiversity nods to Guides and Rangers, whose sections showcase advanced skills like water catchment necessary for achieving their Gardening and Biodiversity badges.

Throughout the garden, the strong connection to nature and conservation is evident, with elements like the bug houses and bee hotel all created by Girlguiding members themselves. The path culminates in a tranquil camp area, complete with personal Girlguiding camp blankets, nestled in a woodland setting ready for nature searches, games and camp songs.

This garden is a living representation of the skills, fun, and connection to nature that Girlguiding instils. Just as a garden must be tended, Girlguiding helps girls to grow into resilient, compassionate, and empowered young people.

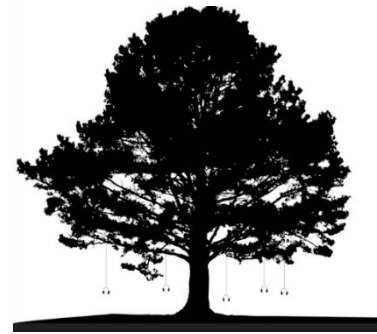
5) The Tree Listening Project

Designer: Alex Metcalf

Media Contact: Alex Metcalf

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The Tree Listening Project uses highly sensitive microphones to make the inner workings of trees audible. While listening using headphones hanging from tree branches, guests can hear the quiet popping sound of water passing through the cells of the xylem tubes as it makes its way upwards. This water movement is what keeps the tree alive by providing the leaves with the necessary water to turn into sugar as a source of food, and as part of the cooling system on a hot sunny day.



A loud, deep rumbling can also be heard, produced by the tree's movement.. The exhibit aims to unveil the inner workings of a tree, to discover the hidden sounds that while usually inaudible, constantly surround us.

6) Soilfest

Exhibitor: Wild Soils, Bio Complete Compost

Media Contact: Nick Padwick

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Inspired by the secrets of compost, this exhibit invites visitors into the unseen world beneath our feet, the living soil food web. Through interactive displays, living compost systems, and microscopic views of fungi, bacteria, and other soil organisms, visitors will discover how nature creates abundance through balance and regeneration.

The exhibit's theme centres on renewal: transforming waste into biologically complete compost that restores life to the earth. Visitors will experience how healthy soil supports stronger plants, cleaner water, and thriving communities.

Exhibitor: Cranfield University: The Talking Soils Bench

Designer: Dr Dan Evans

Media Contact: Kath Middleditch

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Two Talking Soil Benches, designed by Dr Dan Evans, will give guests the opportunity to listen to the hidden stories of soil unfold through immersive audio, including eco-acoustic recordings that reveal the subtle sounds of life within the soil. Created to make the invisible visible, the benches blend science, curiosity, and play in a truly unique experience.

Alongside the Talking Benches, the exhibit will contain a "soil buffet", getting up close with soils from around the region, and discovering the vital roles they play in our everyday lives.