Perth Garden Show 2025 - A Fresh New Look and a Resounding Success

The 2025 Perth Garden Show, proudly presented by the Water Corporation and owned by the Nursery & Garden Industry WA (NGIWA), was held from 2–4 May at its beautiful new location, McCallum Park. Nestled beside the Swan River and shaded by mature trees, the venue provided a fitting backdrop for WA's premier gardening and outdoor living event.

This year's show marked an exciting new chapter, with over 100 exhibitors from the nursery, garden, landscaping, and lifestyle sectors, and almost 11,000 visitors attending across the weekend. The event offered a dynamic blend of plant sales, expert advice, hands-on workshops, and inspiring displays that catered to both passionate gardeners and curious newcomers.

Highlights included:

- The Plant Market, showcasing an exceptional range of WA-grown plants from nurseries such as Zanthorrea, Australian Native Nursery, Lakehouse Nursery, Fickle Prickles, Succulent Planet, and HortBiz with their Tucker Bush collection. We were also pleased to welcome new exhibitor LCN Community Nursery, as well as Drewitt's Bulbs, who returned all the way from Victoria.
- Feature zones and activations, including the Richgro Knowledge Centre, Baileys Workshop Space, Re-Wilding Stage, and daily Lawn and Reticulation demonstrations.
- Blank Canvas Makeovers by The Forever Project, which drew large crowds with live garden builds each day. Feature presenters alongside Chris Ferreira included Josh Byrne, Steve Woods and Darren Seinor.
- The Garden Design Hub, led by the Landscape Design Institute, featuring five show gardens and offering expert design consultations. The garden design consults proved very popular and were booked out.
- The Kalamunda Garden Festival Patch, bringing together over 30 small stallholders and adding vibrancy and accessibility for micro-nurseries and handmade garden goods.

Guest speakers included an impressive lineup of WA's horticultural leaders—Sabrina Hahn, Josh Byrne, Sue McDougall, Neville Passmore, and Charlie Albone among them—who captivated audiences with practical advice and creative inspiration.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the layout, the new venue, and the variety of exhibitors. Comments included: "Best organised show in years", "More variety in plants", and "This year's show was more down-to-earth and for real gardeners."

NGIWA President Ross Hooper said the energy and camaraderie throughout the weekend reflected the strength and passion of WA's horticultural community:

"The move back to McCallum Park was a fantastic decision. The atmosphere, the venue, and the collaboration across the industry made this year's event one of the most successful in recent memory."

Key factors behind the success of the 2025 Perth Garden Show included the generous support of our sponsors—most notably our naming partner, **Water Corporation**, and major sponsors **Richgro** and **Baileys**. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to members of the

Horticultural Media Association of WA, who promoted the show across various platforms and shared their expertise on stage throughout the weekend.

A sincere thank you goes to all **stallholders**, whose tireless planning, creative displays, and warm hospitality were the true heart of the event—what the public came to see, engage with, and enjoy.

From me personally, **thank you to our wonderful emcees—Deryn Thorpe, Mel Logozzo, Chris Ferreira, and Colin Barlow—**for keeping the energy high and the stages flowing seamlessly.

We also gratefully acknowledge the work of our **esteemed judges**:

- John Colwill, Faye Arcaro, Andrea Whitely, and Rae Burton for the Exhibitor and Greenlife sites;
- Charlie Albone and Kylie Brinfield for judging the Pocket Gardens.

 Your time and expertise brought credibility and celebration to the participants and their efforts.

And of course, a special thank you to the team at Premiere Events, who truly delivered on the vision—and brought back that *Garden Week* magic we all hoped to see and feel once again.

Looking ahead to 2026, planning is already underway. Interested exhibitors and sponsors are encouraged to visit <u>perthgardenshow.com.au</u> to join the mailing list and be part of next year's event.

Warm regards,

Lisa Passmore Executive Officer Nursery & Garden Industry WA