



22 January 2024

Join us for the inaugural Children's Gardening Festival at Brigg Garden Centre with the Skinny Jean Gardener

Lee Connelly, renowned as the Skinny Jean Gardener from CBBC's Blue Peter and BBC Teach, is set to kick off the new year with an exhilarating event launching at Brigg Garden Centre. The Skinny Jean Gardener's Children's Mini Festival promises a unique and engaging experience for families, scheduled to take place at British Garden Centres' flagship store.

Lee, widely known as The Skinny Jean Gardener, stands as a prominent figure in horticulture and gardening education, recognised among the UK's top 50 TV gardening presenters. With appearances on CBBC's Blue Peter, BBC Teach, BBC Radio 1, and his engaging venture, Extreme Gardening, Lee has captivated audiences of all ages.

As a published children's author and host of The Sunday Times Best Gardening Podcast, he embodies dedication to teaching gardening. Lee's commitment led to the establishment of School Gardening Success; an innovative initiative focused on providing comprehensive gardening education to primary schools across the UK. His expertise in children and school gardening also contributes significantly to shaping policies promoting gardening in childhood education within the House of Lords. In 2023, Lee was deservedly acknowledged as the UK's leading children's gardening educator, highlighting his enduring passion and impact in the realms of horticulture and education.

The Children's Gardening Festival at Brigg Garden Centre will feature a range of interactive activities designed to spark the curiosity and creativity of young minds. Participants can look forward to activities such as sowing seeds for bees, crafting bug hotels, and experiencing music generated by actual plants.

In addition to hands-on gardening activities, families can enjoy reading sessions in the gardening library and embark on a gardening hunt around the garden centre. The festival is designed to be inclusive, ensuring a delightful experience for visitors of all ages and provides a unique opportunity for families to connect through a blend of education, creativity, and fun.

Lee expressed his excitement about the event, saying: "I'm thrilled to launch this in 2024, bringing something entirely different to families. It's an opportunity for them to spend quality time together, creating gardening



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projects, discussing how plants grow, and inspiring a shared passion for gardening at home. For me, gardening as a family has always been about making memories, and that's precisely what this travelling mini-festival is all about!"

The Skinny Jean Gardener Children's Mini Festival will take place at Brigg Garden Centre on **Saturday 10th, and Sunday 11th February, between 10 am and 3 pm**. Tickets cost £10 per child for the event which also includes access to Brigg Garden Centre's soft play and a go on the store's train ride.

ENDS:

WORD COUNT: 429

Notes to Editors:

About the business:

British Garden Centres (BGC) is the UK's largest family-owned garden centre group with 62 centres around the country. The group is owned and led by The Stubbs family, who also own and operate Woodthorpe Leisure Park in Lincolnshire.

BGC was launched in 1987 with the opening of Woodthorpe Garden Centre funded by brothers Charles and Robert Stubbs. Since 2018 it has expanded rapidly with the acquisition of 50 garden centres allowing it to grow from its heartland to the business it is now with 62 garden centres spread from Carmarthen to Ramsgate, Wimborne to East Durham.

The group has a team of 2,700 colleagues working across the garden centres, restaurants, 2 growing nurseries, 4 distribution centres and Woodthorpe Leisure Park and Woody's Restaurant & Bar.

Social Media

Facebook: British Garden Centres

Twitter: @BGCentres

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Website: www.britishgardencentres.com

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