



## **Dobbies announces 'Not Your Average Gardener' award winners**

Dobbies, the UK's leading garden centre retailer, has announced the winners of its first-ever 'Not Your Average Gardener' awards.

Judged by gardener, journalist and Dobbies' podcast host Louise Midgely, and Dobbies' Horticultural Director, Marcus Eyles, the duo have found six gardening stars across the UK who will each receive a £250 voucher to spend on gardening goods in their local store, as well as a consultation with one of the judges.

With the aim to find the best and most dedicated gardeners from across the UK, the awards showcase those with creativity, commitment and passion in gardening.

The 2021 Not Your Average Gardener winners are;

- Olivia Jayne Robinson from Birtley, Best Young Gardener Award
- Growing Places from Waterlooville, Hampshire, Best Little Seedling Award
- Margaret Spencer from Liverpool, Best Community Gardener
- Pauline Wainwright from Loughborough, Most Instagrammable Garden Award
- Ella Gibson from Stonehouse, Best Mini Garden Make-over Award
- Kylie Walker from Llanelli, Wales, Dobbies Best New Gardener 2021 Award

Marcus Eyles, Horticulture Director at Dobbies, said: "It's been incredibly inspiring to see so many passionate gardeners get involved and enter our first-ever 'Not Your Average Gardener' awards. With so many entries it is safe to say that judging these wonderfully talented gardeners was no easy task. It has been heart-warming to see friends and families nominate one another, showing a true sense of community spirit.

"We've taken into consideration detailed descriptions of every entry to reach our final decision and crown our very worthy winners. Their hard work and passion for gardening certainly hasn't gone unnoticed and I hope they enjoy spending their prize at their local store, which will help their green space flourish even more.

"A huge thank you to everyone who entered and made our 'Not Your Average Gardener' awards so special."

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### **About Dobbies**

- Established in 1865, Dobbies is now the UK's leading garden centre retailer, with 74 stores.
- A turning point in the business came in 2019 with the acquisition of 37 stores, more than doubling the company's footprint.
- Dobbies aspires to be 'not your average garden centre'; we exist to enrich people's lives and nurture connections between people, the community and the environment.

- Dobbies is proud to be a supporter of #terracarta, launched by HRH The Prince of Wales' Sustainable Markets Initiative.