



GCA announces details of 2013 conference

GARDEN centre bosses and their suppliers are already (March, 2012) being invited to pencil the date and venue of next year's Garden Centre Association (GCA) conference into their dairies.

The event will take place from January 27 until 29, 2013 and will once again be held at the Crowne Plaza Heythrop Park near Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire.

Peter Burks, Chairman of the GCA, added: "We wanted to make sure we announced the date and venue of next year's conference as early as possible so people can get it into their diaries.

"The 2013 event is going to have the wow factor and be better than ever so we hope lots of people will book their places soon.

"The aim of our annual conference is to bring the industry together to discuss all matters topical to garden centres.

"The annual event gives our industry leaders the platform to spell out their visions, allows our members to showcase their products and services and provides excellent networking opportunities. It's also a chance to catch up with friends and colleagues alike."

The GCA represents nearly 200 garden centres nationwide.

Through sharing information and its inspection programme the GCA helps members to achieve high standards in customer service, plant quality and reliability.

Phil Slinger, GCA Chief Executive, explained: "Following a fantastic conference this year (2012) and based on member feedback, the Executive Committee has agreed that our annual conference will once again be hosted at the Crowne Plaza Heythrop Park.

"Feedback from this year's event concluded that the excellent conference facilities at Heythrop Park ensured delegates were able to concentrate on the presentations and business aims of the conference."

The 2013 GCA conference will prove delegates with pertinent information on key aspects of the garden centre industry to assist members in achieving their business goals.

MF



Page 2, GCA/2013 conference

The information shared will focus on a wide range of topics, including merchandising, marketing and management.

Phil continued: “The conference is scheduled at the beginning of the year when people are thinking of New Year’s resolutions. We are providing people with the opportunity to achieve a great resolution to learn lots of new things about the industry.”

For further details about the GCA 2013 conference, or to book a place, please call 01993 871456, visit www.gca.org.uk, log on to www.facebook.com/pages/Garden-Centre-Association or follow the organisation on Twitter at www.twitter.com/GC_Association.