

GCA and GIMA growing

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Gardening membership organisations say they are expanding.



Iain Wylie

The Garden Industry Manufacturers Association said Floral Company, Stax, Karcher, SteadyPost, Plant Magic Plus, Anglo American Distributors, Green Velvet, CombiPot, Chevron Europe, DJ Turfcare, LLC, Wholesale Garden Furniture, AFK Garden, Grono Lawns and Bowland Stone have joined. GIMA has about 150 members and will hold a day meeting on 26 November at Poplars Garden Centre in Bedfordshire.

The GCA represents almost 200 garden centres and added five this year. GCA chief executive Iain Wylie said the GCA hopes to add four or five in 2015. He said it remained to be seen if the recent sales of prominent members such as Trelawney would lead to the new owners, Blue Diamond and Wyevale, pulling out of membership.

Garden Centre Association (GCA) members wishing to attend the organisation's annual conference can take advantage of an early bird discount when they book their place in November.

People who book to attend the conference before November 30 will benefit from a 10 per cent reduction in price for the event, which takes place at the De Vere Carden Park in Chester from January 25 until 28. More than 300 delegates are expected to attend.