## Media release for the Garden Centre Association

## Wales & West winners receive awards

THE OLD Railway Line Garden Centre scooped the most awards during the Garden Centre Association's (GCA) Wales & West regional awards evening yesterday (Thursday, July 23, 2015) at Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre.

The Old Railway Line Garden Centre scooped seven awards including Best Garden Centre (GC) while Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre scooped Best Destination Garden Centre (DGC).

Iain Wylie, Chief Executive of the GCA, said: "The Old Railway Line Garden Centre is really making waves in Wales while Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre is waving the flag for the South West. Huge congratulations go to both as they are very deserving winners.

"Other awards on the night included Most Improved centre, which was won by RHS Garden Rosemoor. It also took home the accolade for Best Restaurant in the GC category alongside Cadbury Garden Centre, who received the award in the DGC category."

The award for Best Indoor Lifestyle went to The Old Railway Line Garden Centre (GC) and Whitehall Garden Centre – Lacock (DGC). Best Outdoor Lifestyle was awarded to The Old Railway Line Garden Centre (GC) and Endsleigh Garden and Leisure (DGC).

Iain added: "We are reaching the end of our week of regional awards meetings. They have been extremely enjoyable and all of our hosts have been brilliant. We really enjoyed our time at Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre for the Wales & West meeting.

"The next meeting takes place tonight at Bents Garden & Home in Glazebury, Warrington followed by the last event later on in the year on Wednesday, September 23 for the Scotland/Northern Ireland area. This will be held at Glendoick Gardens Ltd Nursery & Gardens in Glencarse, Perth with inspector Liz Hutson."

The full results for the Wales & West region GCA area awards are as follows for the GC and DGC categories:

**Best Garden Centre:** The Old Railway Line Garden Centre (GC) and Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre (DGC)

Best Customer Service: The Old Railway Line Garden Centre

Best Environment and Community: The Old Railway Line Garden Centre

**Best Creativity and Innovation:** The Old Railway Line Garden Centre

**Most Improved:** RHS Garden Rosemoor

**Best Restaurant:** RHS Garden Rosemoor (GC) and Cadbury Garden Centre (DGC)

**Garden Products Retailer:** The Old Railway Line Garden Centre (GC) and Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre (DGC)

**Best Indoor Lifestyle:** The Old Railway Line Garden Centre (GC) and Whitehall Garden Centre – Lacock (DGC)

**Best Outdoor Living:** The Old Railway Line Garden Centre (GC) and Endsleigh Garden and Leisure (DGC).

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.

For further information, please call 0118 930 8918. Alternatively, please visit <a href="www.gca.org.uk">www.gca.org.uk</a>, log on to <a href="www.facebook.com/pages/GardenCentreAssociation">www.facebook.com/pages/GardenCentreAssociation</a> or follow the organisation on Twitter at <a href="www.twitter.com/GC\_Association">www.twitter.com/GC\_Association</a>.

## **ENDS**

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**Photograph caption one:** (Back row, second right) GCA Inspector, Ian Boardman, with (front row, second left) The Old Railway Line Garden Centre Shop Manager, Katie Eckley, and members of the team with their awards, including the award for Best Garden Centre.

**Photograph caption two:** (Back row, fourth from left) GCA Inspector, Ian Boardman, and (front row, second from right) Steve Searle, Store Manager at Monkton Elm Garden & Pet Centre with the rest of the garden centre team and their awards for Best Destination Garden Centre and Garden Products Retailer.

**Photograph caption three:** Staff members from Whitehall Garden Centre – Lacock with their awards.

