

# HorticultureWeek

## Cole, Emslie and Triggs join GCA inspectorate

23 January 2017, by Matthew Appleby, [Be the first to comment](#)

The Garden Centre Association has announced its three new inspectors who will begin visiting member garden centres this March 20-June 16.



Hedley Triggs

Michael Cole, Gordon Emslie and Hedley Triggs will join current inspector, Roger Crookes, to complete the team for 2017.

GCA chief executive Iain Wylie said: "We are absolutely thrilled to welcome Michael, Gordon and Hedley, who will be joining remaining inspector, Roger Crookes. The three new members will go through a thorough induction process before the inspection window opens to ensure the consistency of marking that we all expect continues.

"We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to Alyson Haywood, Andy Campbell and Ian Boardman for their hard work as inspectors for the GCA. Andy and Ian had been visiting member garden centres for many years while Alyson was a relative newcomer, however they all leave with our thanks and best wishes for the future."

Cole joined Notcutts Garden Centre in St Albans in January 1978 as a general assistant, working in the planteria. He went on to become centre manager six years later.



He was appointed as a regional manager in 1987 and oversaw the running of five Notcutts eastern region garden centre. In 2009 he became business development and retail property Director, overseeing the development of [Notcutts' garden centre at Pembury](#), Tunbridge Wells and establishment of a new look Notcutts at Wheatcroft, Woodford Park, Norwich and Staines garden centres.

Emslie's early career experience was in multiple retailing. Prior to setting up a consultancy business in 2006 he was a store manager, responsible for a team of 650 and sales of £100M per annum, and business coach within Sainsbury's.



As a consultant, he has worked with a number of retail clients, including garden centres, focusing on the retail journey and customer service as well as development of the teams who deliver this.

Most recently Triggs has been the manager at the Blue Diamond Trelawney Garden Centre and prior to this had 25 years' experience at management level within garden centres and for growers or plant suppliers. Before Trelawney, he was a manager for Wyevale.

He also ran centres such as Sanders Garden World, Bridgemere Garden Centre and Jacks Patch Garden Centre. He was a member of the project management team for the group's redevelopment of their Percy Thrower's centre in Shropshire. He started his garden centre career working for Klondyke/Strikes where he held centre manager and buying roles.