

Media release for the Garden Centre Association

# Scotland and N.Ireland winners unveiled by GCA

THE GARDEN Centre Association (GCA) revealed its Scottish and Northern Irish regional winners at a presentation recently at Creative Gardens Galgorm Castle.

Simpsons Garden Centre was awarded Best Garden Centre in the Destination Garden Centre category (DGC) and Garden Wise – Dumfries won in the Garden Centre category (GC) in Scotland. Creative Gardens Donaghadee scooped Best Garden Centre (GC) in Northern Ireland.

Iain Wylie, Chief Executive of the GCA, said: “We had a fantastic evening at the presentation of the Scottish and Northern Irish area awards and we would like to say a huge thank you to Creative Gardens Galgorm Castle for being the hosts for the evening.

“Each garden centre was inspected earlier in the year and GCA Inspector Roger Crookes presented his findings, highlighting best practice and new ideas as well as revealing the area winners in the two categories: Destination Garden Centre (DGC) and Garden Centre (GC) for each of the areas.”

The top scoring centres overall, nationally, in both the Destination Garden Centre and Garden Centre categories will be re-inspected before the titles of Garden Centre of the Year and Destination Garden Centre of the Year are announced at the GCA annual conference taking place in January 2017.

The full results for the Scotland and Northern Ireland GCA area awards are as follows for the GC and DGC categories:

## **Scotland:**

**Best Garden Centre:** Simpsons Garden Centre (DGC) and Garden Wise – Dumfries (GC)

**Best Creativity and Innovation:** Simpsons Garden Centre

**Most Improved:** Caulders Garden Centre Erskine

**Best Customer Service:** Simpsons Garden Centre

**Garden Products Retailer:** Raemoir Garden Centre (DGC) and Garden Wise – Dumfries (GC)

**Best Garden Centre Restaurant:** Simpsons Garden Centre (DGC) and Raemoir Garden Centre (DGC) and Mains of Drum (GC) and Glendoick Garden Centre (GC)

**Best Outdoor Living:** Raemoir Garden Centre (DGC) and Gouldings Garden Centre (GC)

**Best Indoor Lifestyle Retailer:** Raemoir Garden Centre (DGC) and Glendoick Garden Centre (GC)

**Best Environment and Community:** Garden Wise – Dumfries.

**Northern Ireland:**

**Best Garden Centre:** Creative Gardens Donaghadee (GC)

**Best Creativity and Innovation:** Creative Gardens Donaghadee (GC)

**Most Improved:** Creative Gardens Galgorm Castle (GC)

**Best Customer Service:** Creative Gardens Donaghadee (GC)

**Garden Products Retailer:** Creative Gardens Donaghadee (GC)

**Best Garden Centre Restaurant:** Creative Gardens Galgorm Castle (GC)

**Best Outdoor Living:** Creative Gardens Donaghadee (GC)

**Best Indoor Lifestyle Retailer:** Creative Gardens Donaghadee (GC)

**Best Environment and Community:** Creative Gardens Donaghadee (GC).

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 [www.gca.org.uk](http://www.gca.org.uk), log on to [www.facebook.com/pages/GardenCentreAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/pages/GardenCentreAssociation) or follow the organisation on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/GC\\_Association](https://www.twitter.com/GC_Association).

**ENDS**

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**Photograph caption one:** The team from Gouldings Garden Centre with their awards.

**Photograph caption two:** The team from Simpsons Garden Centre with their awards and (far right) GCA Inspector, Roger Crookes.

