



Garden Centre Association

GCA Conference 2025 Programme

Monday 27th January

- 08:45** GCA AGM – open to Garden Centre members only.
- 09:00** Welcome and introduction from our Chairman, William Blake.
- 09:15** Annual inspection round-up. Alyson Haywood, Gordon Emslie and Colin Farquhar take you on a journey around the UK to showcase the best practice and innovation seen during their inspection visits in spring 2024.
- 10:30** **COFFEE BREAK.**
- 11:00** GCA Awards with Gordon Emslie.
- 12:15** YPHA update.
- 12:30** **LUNCH.**
- 13:30** Rising Stars presentations and voting with Gordon Emslie.
- 14:15** Rob Hopkins – ‘Imagination’.
- 15:15** **TEA BREAK.**
- 15:45** Henry Rose Lee – ‘Generational Diversity and Inclusion – Working with Future Generations’.
- 16:45** Geoff Ramm – ‘Customer Experience / Celebrity Service’.
- 17:40** Rising Stars winner announced.
- 17:45** **CONFERENCE SESSION ENDS.**
- 18:45** The Associate’s Networking Night. Drinks reception and themed dinner. This year, we have a ‘London Underground’ theme (fancy dress is optional).

Tuesday 28th January

- 09:00** Good morning and welcome back.
- 09:05** An update from our chosen charities; Greenfingers and Perennial.
- 09:30** Roger Martin-Fagg – Economist.
- 10:30** **COFFEE BREAK.**
- 11:00** HTA update with Fran Barnes, Chief Executive.
- 11:15** RHS update.
- 11:30** Michelle Carvill – ‘Brand / Sustainable Marketing’.
- 12:30** An update from The Colegrave Seabrook Foundation, National Gardens Scheme and Floral Fantasia.
- 12:45** IGCA update.
- 13:00** GCA Trust update with Will Armitage.
- 13:15** **LUNCH.**
- 14:15** “The Unique Garden Centre Experience” with Trevor Pfeiffer.
- 14:30** Professor Sophie Scott – ‘Leadership and Laughter’.
- 15:30** CONFERENCE SESSION ENDS.
- 15:45** **ASSOCIATE’S EXHIBITION AND AFTERNOON TEA.**
- 17:45** **ASSOCIATE’S EXHIBITION CLOSES.**
- 18:30** Champagne Reception.
- 19:15** Annual Dinner and Gala Awards Ceremony.
- CONFERENCE CLOSES.**

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Tuesday AM Coffee & Tea Break



Tuesday Champagne Reception



Tuesday After Dinner Chocolates



Stage Plants



Associate's Exhibition



Lanyards



Conference Folders & Pads



Conference Pens



Indoor Plants



Best Food Hall / Farm Shop Award



Outdoor Living Award



Garden Products Retailer Award



Ruxley Rose Award



Christmas Competition Award



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